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1999 Annual Report

Town of Meredith



Public Works Department

MEREDITH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Highway

<u>Employees</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Timothy Anair	10	Les Kelley	12
Monica Bennett	2	Dennis Martin	18
Pete Bushnell	2	Bruce MacBrien, Jr.	1
Dick Davis	8	Gregg Pelczar	10
Mike Faller	2	Larry Pelczar	18
Jim Hawthorne	12	Bruce Plummer	3
Richard Jaynes	2	Ron Rowe	10

Solid Waste

<u>Employees</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Tom Carbone	10	Mike Tarling	9
Milton Reed	1	Barry Weeks	21
Dale Sargent	12		

Buildings & Grounds

<u>Employees</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
William Doten	1	Robert Thibeault	10
Walter Morton	12		

Featured in the picture on the front cover:

Front row (L-R): Barry Weeks, Monica Bennett, Mike Faller, Bill Doten, Walter Morton, Gregg Pelczar, Bob Thibeault, Dick Davis, Tim Anair, Les Kelley, Bruce MacBrien, Dennis Martin, Bruce Plummer, Dale Sargent, Dick Jaynes, Mike Tarling

Back row (L-R): Larry Pelczar, Ron Rowe, Jim Hawthorne, Pete Bushnell

THE TOWN OF
MEREDITH
NEW HAMPSHIRE



1999

ANNUAL REPORT

for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999

MEREDITH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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Back row (L-R): Larry Pelczar, Ron Rowe, Jim Hawthorne, Pete Bushnell

TOWN REPORT DEDICATION

The 1999 Town Report is dedicated in memory to:

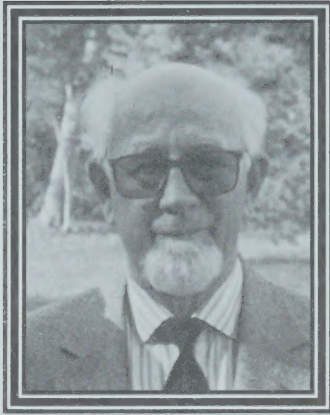


Lawrence E. (BUCKET) Swain
1929 - 1999

Lawrence Swain: was a life long resident of Meredith. Larry received a community service award from the Town of Meredith in 1987. He had touched many lives over the years with his community service. He was a youth league coach and served on the Parks and Playground Commission for 3 years. He served as a Selectman of Meredith for six years and also served on the Planning Board. He was Meredith's Animal Control Officer for seven years. Larry was active in Inter-Lakes Boosters and very involved with school sports.

Trinity Church and the Masonic Bodies were other groups where his leadership talents were used. As an "overseer of work" he was great; he could get Volunteers to complete many a task.

IN RECOGNITION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



Linden E. Grad



Edward R. Moulton



William F. Richards Sr.

Linden E. Grad: owned and operated Grad's Clothing Store located on Main Street in Meredith. He sold the store and then worked for the Meredith Post Office for 10 years. He also found time to serve on the Inter-Lakes School Board and served as a trustee for the Meredith Library. Mr. Grad was the oldest member and past president of the Meredith Rotary Club.

Edward R. Moulton: was employed by the former Prescott Lumber Company in Meredith for over 50 years. He was a Volunteer Firemen for over 30 years for the Meredith Fire Department and was a member of the Laconia Elks Lodge. Mr. Moulton was a lifelong resident of Meredith. He enjoyed playing on the men's baseball and softball teams. He also supported the Meredith youth leagues and served as an umpire for many years.

William F. Richards Sr.: was employed by the former Bucklin Tractor Co, where he worked for many years as a parts manager and shop foreman. He then went on to join his son in the ownership and operation of W.F. Richards and Sons Company. Mr. Richards was also a Volunteer Firemen for over 25 years for the Meredith Fire Department. He also was a member of the Meredith Lions Club.

The Town of Meredith is honoring these three gentlemen for
their dedicated community service.

It takes men like these to make a community successful.

IN APPRECIATION FOR...

Over twenty-two years of service.

Lieutenant Paul Dillon: The Town of Meredith lost a valuable human resource to retirement on February 24, 1999, after twenty-two years of service to the people and community. Lt. Paul Dillon of the Meredith Police Department was the next senior ranking officer to Chief Curran and acted as the chief of police in his absence. He presented felony cases to the grand jury, and as detective he made himself available to respond to and investigate serious incidents on a twenty-four hour a day basis to conduct crime scene investigations and/or back-up responding officers. As evidence officer it was his responsibility to tag, store and preserve evidence, stolen and found property. Paul also supervised many administrative functions, which included appropriation and care of department equipment, taking care of the vehicle fleet, supervising communications/clerical personnel, as well as applying for grants. Paul was instrumental in computerizing the department and also served as the computer liaison. When able to get away from work, Paul is an avid sailor, hiker, and ice fisherman. He also enjoys cooking and spending time with his wife, Kathleen and two sons, Paul and Sean. Lt. Paul Dillon will be sorely missed. We wish him all the best.

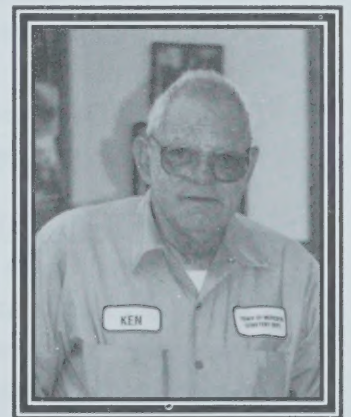


Lt. Paul Dillon

Over forty-five years of service.

Kenneth Sargent: started working at the Meredith Village Cemetery part-time with his dad, Harold, who was the sexton for 31 years. Ken took over as sexton when his father retired. Ken remembers all the blueberry bushes that used to grow where the graves are now.

Ken has had to bury friends and close relatives including his wife and baby. He has had requests from townspeople who want him to do their burials. Ken's response "you better hurry up!" Ken retired in October 1999. He is the only person that knows the cemetery's history and where everyone is located. It's such a great loss when a knowledgeable and dedicated individual like Ken retires. He will be greatly missed.



Kenneth Sargent

On behalf of the Residents and Property owners of the Town of Meredith...

THANK YOU~for your dedicated service to this community.

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Christopher C. Whitcher, 2000

Stephen H. Nedeau, 2002

James F. Hughes, 2001

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Moderator, 2000

Town Clerk, 2002

Treasurer, 2002

Ralph Losee

Pauline L. Jones

Valerie McDonald

TOWN DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

Town Manager & Tax Collector

Finance Director & General Assistance Director

Town Planner

Code Enforcement & Health Officer

Public Works Director

Assistant Public Works Director

Water & Sewer Superintendent

Assessor

Parks & Recreation Director

Librarian

Deputy Tax Collector

Deputy Town Clerk

Peter G. Russell

Brenda A. Vittner

John C. Edgar, AICP

John W. Dever, Jr.

Michael Faller

Bruce MacBrien

Robert Hill

Lena Watson Bolton

Cheryl A. Saltzberg

Lydia Torr

Valerie "Vikki" Fogg

Sheila M. Vachon

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COURT

Thomas J. Boriso, 2000, Meredith

David M. Lawton, 2000, Meredith

Carl Johnson Sr., Senator

POLICE DEPARTMENT

John P. Curran, Chief

John Egan, Sergeant

Kevin Morrow, Sergeant

James Cerami, Patrolman

Glenn Rollins, Patrolman

Robert E. L. Chance III, Patrolman

Dispatchers: Debra Bunker, Deborah Lewis, Robert Nichols, Tonia Sorell

Keith True, Juvenile Officer

William B. Sipes, Patrolman

Michael Harper, Patrolman

John P. Eichhorn, Patrolman

Christine Fecteau, Clerk

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Charles G. Palm, Chief

Andre Kloetz, 1st Assistant Chief

Roger Hawkins, 2nd Assistant Chief

Tom Joslin, 3rd Assistant Chief

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Charles G. Palm

Town Officials

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Steven R. Bennett

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Frank Michel, Chairman, 2001

Scott Nolan, 2001

Gordon Lemke, 2001

Lynne Hart, 2001

Georgette Misiewicz, 2001, resigned 11-99

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS

Janice A. Phillips, 2001

Jonathan D. James, 2001

Kenneth Haley, 2000

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Deborah K. McNeish, Chairman, 2002

Lucienne M. Boulanger, 2004

Brenda L. Thibeault, 2000

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Paul Eldridge, Chairman, 2000

Laurie A. Brothers, 2002

Margaret T. Lee, 2000

Delphine Clough, 2001

G. Wendell Whitcher, 2002

Duncan McNeish, 2000

Kathleen S. Peverly, 2000

PLANNING BOARD

Robert Flanders, Chairman, 2002

Joseph Nardone, 2002

Herb Vadney, 2001

Roger Sorell, 2000

William Bayard, 2000

Sandra Price, 2000

Stephen Nedeau, Selectmen's Representative

Alternates:

William Finer, 2002

Pamela Bliss, 2002

James Hughes, Selectman

Ray Porcell, 2001

Ronald James, 2002

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Ralph Losee, Chairman, 2002

John Mack, 2002

Fred Hawkins, 2001

James Miller, 2000

Kenneth Haley, 2000

Alternates:

Christopher Whitcher, Selectman

Janice Joslin, 2000

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

John Sherman, Chairman, 2000

Philip Mercer, 2002

Robert LeCount, 2001

Peter Miller, 2002

Merritt Webb, 2000

John Robinson, 2001

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES

William Bayard, 2001

Herb Vadney, 2001

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Report from the Meredith Board of Selectmen

To Our Citizens of Meredith:

We continue to strive to make additional improvements within our community, plan for our future and maintain or improve our level of municipal services, while maintaining our municipal portion of the tax rate at its current level.

As we brought 1999 to a close, we are pleased to report Meredith had a very positive, busy and productive year. The Capital Improvements Program Committee consisting of: Robert C. Flanders, Chairman, Carl Johnson, Sr. of the School Board, James F. Hughes of the Board of Selectmen, Robert Ambrose, Allen Gable, Peter Brothers, and Roland Boucher did an excellent service to our townspeople prioritizing and recommending sequencing of Town and School capital expenditures in excess of \$60,000. We have included their recommendations and appreciate them providing flexibility in order to meet community needs. Our budget and warrant recommendations utilize this flexibility in asking for fire truck bonding approval, which if passed, allows us to order the truck to be built, but our expendable trust will pay for the truck over three years (one more beyond this year) with no tax impact.

Our second bond issue is the Plymouth Street / Route 3 North Project. We moved this bond issue question ahead one-year to take advantage of ½ project grant costs and very low interest rates. Tax impact should be in the .08 - .18 cents per \$1000. property value range dependent on timing and all final details. Originally, debt payment reduction within the Inter-Lakes School Budget would have neutralized this tax impact, but as of this writing the School Budget may absorb the \$1.1 million debt reduction.

We have included many customary warrant articles in our warrant for payments to expendable trusts to plan for our future without tax rate spikes.

We have also included an article requesting an additional \$40,000 to make our Waukewan Canal bridge a wooden covered bridge. We have heard various comments, but are asking your direction by this article.

The Statewide educational property tax is of grave concern and an extremely important issue to us. In 1999 we were a recipient town by \$76,000 of new money. The State is approximately 34 million dollars short for this biennium and we have heard 200 million dollars short to start the following biennium state budget. We are working with coalition communities to protect us from future property tax gouging, if possible.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Even though after the close of 1999, we wish to acknowledge the loss of long time residents and volunteers Norman “Buster” Martin, Pearl Sprague and Oritha “Rithy” Kuether.

We have discussed issues, in our report to you. For project discussion or additional accomplishments please read our Town Manager’s and other Department Reports within this Town Report.

In closing, we have tried to address all issues brought before us and we wish to thank you citizens for your support and confidence and allowing us to serve you.

Sincerely,

Christopher C. Witcher, Chairman

James F. Hughes

Stephen H. Nedeau

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Town Manager's Report

To Our Citizens of Meredith:

I wish to thank you for your input and support. 1999 was a very busy and productive year for the Town of Meredith. It was a pleasure to serve with our dedicated employees and many volunteers on so many diversified projects and issues.

I cannot list or discuss all of our 1999 accomplishments, projects or achievements, but I will mention a few. Please refer to the Selectmen's Report and other Departmental Reports to gain a flavor of community efforts this past year.

Our Public Works Sand and Salt Storage Building is under construction at this time and should be completed soon.

The retaining walls of Waukegan Canal were rebuilt in the fall/early winter of 1999. Our Public Works Department did a fabulous job; if you haven't seen the project – please do! The conclusion of the project will be the addition of a one lane vehicle bridge and new fencing.

The Town has been working with NH DOT on intersection safety concerns and problems. The State is installing signals at Route 104 / Pease / Winnona Roads and Route 104 / Foundry Avenue and Hemlock Drive before July of this year.

Our Christmas lights were installed with complex timers this year allowing us to reduce electric consumption dramatically.

Our biggest project was the near completion of the Pleasant Street Project. Final street overlay will be done in 2000. The water improvements including fire-fighting capability are unbelievable and pedestrian safety improvement by installation of a sidewalk has been a great improvement. The entire project will be completed under budget!

Our Meredith Main Street Program under the direction of Linda Kelley has been extremely active and productive.

Our town docks were lengthened sixty feet this year. We have approval to add one new dock and we have future plans to repair the boardwalk as well.

Our police boat was upgraded to our present Boston Whaler through the federal surplus property program. We paid \$20 for the boat and trailer, but had to provide the new engine.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A portion of Public Works roadwork this past year included:

Complete reconstruction of Douglas Drive, Wotonda Lane and portions of Cummings Cove Road, Leavitt Beach Road, paving of gravel portions of Serenity Lane, Windsong Place and a portion of Camp Waldron Road.

Asphalt paving overlays of Old Hubbard Road, Dale Road, Quimby Road and Waukewan Street.

Many various ditching, drainage and tree trimming improvements and maintenance projects.

We continue to work for our athletic field expansion between Prescott Park and the Elementary School; our wetlands permit has been bogged down at the State of New Hampshire level since June of 1999; we still eagerly await it's approval. Instead of selling the approved \$500,000 of bonds, we have been funding this project with no tax impact.

We should now see reduction in our electric rates. It has been too long coming, but better late than never!

In 1999 we saw departures and retirements of town employees which necessitated replacements. My thanks for their many years of dedication to our townspeople.

As I have expressed each year, and have spoken or worked with many of you citizens or taxpayers, but certainly not everyone. If you have questions, opinions or concerns please drop by to see me or phone 279-4538.

In closing, although Meredith is a very diverse community, I truly enjoy working for and with you all. Thank you for your interest, input, patience, cooperation and community involvement!

Sincerely,

Peter G. Russell
Town Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Record of 1999 Meredith Town Meeting Minutes

State of New Hampshire

TO THE INHABITANTS OF MEREDITH QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS:

You are hereby notified to meet at St. Charles Auditorium, 281 Daniel Webster Highway, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next, March 9, 1999, from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots; and at 7:00 PM, Wednesday, March 10, 1999, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School Gymnasium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on the following articles:

BALLOT ARTICLES TO BE ACTED UPON:

ARTICLE 1 **To bring your ballots for:**

One (1) Selectman for three (3) years	
Ronald B. James	104
Paul R. Lessard	294
Stephen H. Nedeau	536
One (1) Town Clerk for three (3) years	
Pauline L. Jones	862
One (1) Treasurer for three (3) years	
Valerie McDonald	468
Richard Pendergast	349
One (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for two (2) years	
Jonathan James	7
Two (2) Library Trustee for three (3) years	
Laurie A. Brothers	660
Gordon W. Whitcher, Sr.	691
One (1) School Moderator for one (1) year	
Robert Rowan	17
Ralph Losee	12
One (1) School Board Member from Sandwich for three (3) years	
Lee Webb	610
One (1) For Member of School Board Member-At-Large for three (3) years	
Ruth B. Juve	278
Richard E. Hanson	459

ARTICLE 2

"Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with Wireless Telecommunication Facilities?"

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment would establish zones within the community whereby Wireless Telecommunication Facilities (towers and antennas) may be permitted and to establish the conditions, limitations and requirements applicable to such facilities. The amendment would also establish zones within the community where tower facilities in particular, would not be allowed.

YES – 719 NO – 169

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARTICLE 3

"Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with "processing of earth products?"

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment would eliminate "processing of earth products" as a use permitted by Special Exception in the Business and Industry District.

YES – 553 NO – 286

ARTICLE 4

"Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with "equipment and truck repair facilities?"

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment would allow "equipment and truck repair facilities" as a use permitted by Special Exception in the Business and Industry District.

YES – 620 NO - 246

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

Moderator Ralph Losee opened the meeting by asking Bill Nunamacher to lead an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. General announcements were then addressed by the Moderator and introductions of the Town Manager, Selectmen, Town Clerk and Finance Director. Moderator Losee then turned the microphone over to Town Manager, Peter Russell. "I wish to take this opportunity and ask that our participants here this evening, participate and show our appreciation to the many of our citizens serving our community and making Meredith what it is today. Firstly, we would like to thank our dedicated Meredith Fire Department and the Auxiliary whose photograph is on the front cover of the town report this year. We would also like to thank Lt. Paul Dillon who just retired from the Meredith Police Department last month after 21 years of community service. We would like to thank Paul Lessard who's finishing his 6th year as a member of the Board of Selectmen, our various boards, commissions and committees and we have a lot of those. Lastly, our dedicated employees. The community dedication and spirit are certainly alive in Meredith. Thank you all, please join me in thanking our community spirited citizens with applause again." Moderator Losee then read the openings on the various boards and encouraged those who are interested to apply. Moderator Losee then announced the results of the Town Election. Selectman, Stephen Nedeau, Town Clerk, Paula Jones, Town Treasurer, Valerie McDonald, Trustee of Trust Funds, for 2 years, Jonathan James, Library Trustee, for 3 years, Laurie Brothers and Gordon Whitcher, Sr. Also 3 zoning articles. The first one was the wireless tele-communications facility ordinance, which passed by a wide margin. The second having to do with the processing of earth products, which also passed. The third, having to do with equipment and truck repair facilities, also passed. Those will now go into effect.

ARTICLE 5

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Employee Benefits Trust Fund previously established." The Selectmen are agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by Selectman Lessard, seconded by Selectman Chris Whitcher to accept the article as stated.

NO DISCUSSION MOTION CARRIED

ARTICLE 6

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be added to the Landfill Closure Expendable Trust Fund previously established." The Selectmen are agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by Selectman Chris Whitcher, seconded by Selectman James Hughes to accept the motion as read.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DISCUSSION: Dave Sticht, Tracy Way asked if there is a definite date that this will be closed out? Mr. Russell stated that we have engineers designing our closure plan, anticipating closing the landfill in 2000 or 2001. The estimated cost of closure is approximately \$750,000.00. We currently have a balance of about \$562,000.00 and we're hoping that we'll have all the money set aside with one more year, next year. At this point in time we are also eligible for a 20% state grant, we may find ourselves with a little money left over, our goal is to be able to close the landfill, have no bonded indebtedness and be done with it. We haven't used the landfill since 1988, but it has never been formally closed by state or federal standards." No further discussion. Moderator Losee moved the article.

MOTION CARRIED

ARTICLE 7

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Municipal Building Expendable Trust Fund previously established. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget." Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by James Hughes to accept \$50,000.00 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Lessard.

DISCUSSION: Selectman Hughes stated that this was the fourth year that we have appropriated funds for this Expendable Trust Fund, we now have a balance of One Hundred Fifty Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred Ninety Five Dollars (\$157,895.00). The Selectmen are not empowered to spend this money, without coming back to Town Meeting. If improvements are needed in the Town Hall this money is being set aside so if in the future something happens we will have a stable tax rate. No Further Discussion. The Moderator moved the question.

MOTION CARRIED

ARTICLE 8

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to be added to the Solid Waste Trailer Replacement Fund previously established." The Selectmen are agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by Selectman Lessard to have the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00, as presented. Seconded by Selectman Chris Whitcher.

DISCUSSION: Tom Boriso, "What's the total amount you're looking at?" Response from Town Manager Peter Russell, "We're asking to add \$40,000.00 to the fund. What we did last year was to replace two of our household trash trailers. All of our trailers were purchased in 1987-88 and need to be replaced. We're now looking to replace our high top trailers, which we refer to as our construction and demolition debris trailers. Currently in the fund we have about \$8,600.00, we have three household trash trailers either for sale or for trade and we are hoping to trade or sell one of the high-top trailers that we currently have. What this article is doing is putting money in the fund that will allow us to replace one trailer, in the event that we can sell or trade the older trailers that we have we would be able to replace the second high-top trailer as well." Question from Mr. Boriso, "Is this an on going funding process?" Response from Mr. Russell, "If we can find a buyer, for the older used trailers that we have we are hopeful that we can raise enough money so that we will be done replacing trailers this year. In the event that we can't find a buyer for our older trailers, we would have to come back to you at one point in the future, but we're hopeful that we won't have to do that." No further discussion. Article moved by Moderator.

ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE 9

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Fund previously established." The Selectmen are agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by Selectman Whitcher that the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 as read. Seconded by Selectman Hughes.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DISCUSSION: Mr. Whitcher stated, " This fund was established last year and was funded with a \$10,000.00 appropriation. At the present moment the Capital Improvement Committee has received a request from the Fire Chief to replace an old 1966 Ford Pumper, that vehicle will be replaced with something in the year 2000. Presently we have \$10,000.00 in that fund and we're asking for an additional 40,000.00. The price tag for the new fire truck will be probably in the excess of a quarter million dollars. The Selectmen are in agreement and do recommend this article." No further discussion. Moderator Losee moved the Article.

ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE 10

"To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable general fund trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Downtown Parking Fund for the purpose of purchasing or providing additional downtown parking and to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) toward this purpose and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend." Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by Selectman Hughes, "I move that the Town will create an expendable general fund trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Downtown Parking Fund for the purpose of providing additional downtown parking and to raise and appropriate the sum of 75,000.00 toward this purpose and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend." Selectman Lessard seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Hughes stated, " This vote will obviously create a brand new expendable trust fund. It will be dedicated to the purpose of purchasing or providing additional downtown parking. The Board of Selectmen feel it is imperative to have funding available in case that parking space property in the downtown area becomes available that the Town can act on wisely. Article 11 will specifically ask you, the Legislative Body (the voters) here assembled, what your desire with respect to the Calvary Bible Church lot is. We chose to keep these two articles separate for the specific reason that if the Town wasn't interested in purchasing the Calvary lot that we would definitely need to acquire parking space. Their current parking lot provides between 55-65 spaces for Town use most of the time. Losing those spaces when the church sells the property will be a major loss to the Town." Further Discussion; Tom Boriso, " What encompasses the Downtown area?" Response from Selectman Hughes, " Downtown is from Dunkin Donuts up to the so-called Lumbertown property down to the railroad tracks and the depot. Includes all of Main St. businesses and mercantile therefore." No further discussion. Moderator Losee moved the Article.

MOTION CARRIED

ARTICLE 11

"To see if the Town agrees to purchase the Calvary Bible Church property (Tax Map U07, Lot 50) in a future year and to allow the Town to negotiate an agreement for said purchase for Municipal use." Motion by Selectman Lessard, " I move that the Town will agree to purchase the Calvary Bible Church property (Tax Map U07, Lot 50) in a future year and will allow the Town to negotiate an agreement for said purchase for Municipal use." Selectman Whitcher seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Tom Boriso, "Is there a price on the property as of today, if it goes up for sale?" Response from Mr. Russell, " There currently is no price, what we're asking for is the Towns approval to move ahead and negotiate. What the church has offered is to give the right of first refusal to the Town. What we would like to do is to negotiate with them and finalize a price, set up an option to purchase and then come back to the Town Meeting at a future time. There has been no numbers set." Brian Allen, " Can we be guaranteed that you will come back to the towns people and ask them if we want to purchase it for a certain price? I'm all for buying this property, I think the Town should have it but I don't think the Town should pay an exorbitant price. The building is in dire need of a lot of work so what we're buying is a raw piece of property. To make the Building to ADA standards would cost more money, so don't look at the building but at the property as a beautiful piece of land." Moderator Losee asked Mr. Allen, "Your question, you wanted to know if this is going to come back to the town?" Mr.Allen,"Yes." Response from Mr. Russell, " Yes, that is correct. What we're asking now is if you're interested in purchasing the property and allow us to negotiate with the church on a final price so that we may come back to a Town Meeting in the future and ask you specifically for what ever dollar amount that is to purchase that property. As it stands right now we don't know when this might be. The Church has not made a decision as to when they might move it could be whenever. We knew that if we didn't control that parking downtown we would be in tough shape. The church agrees, they are concerned as to what happens to the downtown area as well."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Brad Sprague spoke asking "If this is being considered for the Community Center? Is that a possibility?" Selectman Hughes stated, " Anything is a possibility but I believe that what Brian has spoken is more to the facts and until such time we are authorized to do something about that building and land then we would go in and see just what is there and what the value is and come up with that determination. It may be as Brian has spoken that it is the real estate and parking that we're concerned about" Mr. Sprague," Something in the center of town should be considered for that Community Center." Harry Wood spoke," On behalf of the Calvary Bible Church, we have been part of the downtown for almost 100 years. We consider ourselves to be an integral part of the community and one of the concerns that we had when the subject of possible relocation came up, was what effect it would have on the Town. As has been stated, the church allows parking on its property except when we need it for our own purposes. As stated approximately 66 current spaces possible and as many 75 available without making major changes to the property. The loss of this would certainly effect the downtown area and for this reason we approached the Town and asked them if they would be interested. They in turn, have turned to you the Towns people and please give us a direction. In the past they have offered to hold certain properties, or make them available to the Town at a future date, and the Towns people have not always agreed. They are putting this out to you as a referendum issue to see if it makes good sense to take advantage of this opportunity while it is possible." Discussion: Karen Sticht, " I agree that it's a good thing to negotiate a selling point and a selling price and bring it back to the Town to find out. I'm worried in the wording of this, so I would like to amend this to read," To see if the Town agrees to negotiate an agreement for the Calvary Bible Church Property (Tax Map U07-Lot50), for a future year, for said purchase for municipal use. Basically, to leave out the part," agrees to purchase."

Mr. Hughes," I believe that that amendment is unnecessary because the last part of the motion is," to allow the Town to negotiate an agreement for said purchase for Municipal use," and in most of the negotiations the Town use, where monies involved, it is always, subject to the appropriation of funds by the Town, for said purchase. So that we would negotiate a price for the property and lock that price in with an agreement and then come back at another Town meeting to let you people have the opportunity to approve or disapprove. Now what that means is if you disapproved, what we would have lost would be any amount of money that we spent for an option and the investigation of the viability of the property for Town use. One of the things mentioned earlier was the right of first refusal. There's a big difference between the right of first refusal and the option to buy. With the right of first refusal, they put the property on the market. They get a willing buyer and then we would have 15,30 days whatever was negotiated to accept and match the offer. In that length of time we could never get to a town meeting. So what we are looking for is an agreement, with an option to purchase subject to funds being made available. That's where negotiations come in."

Karen Sticht," Then why were the words,"agrees to purchase Calvary Bible Church Property," were these written specifically that way because you wanted the right of first refusal, but if you had a first refusal you'd have to come back to the Town to agree to it any way, so you would have to have the time to call a town meeting." Response: Mr. Hughes," That's the problem with the first refusal. You would not have the time frame to come back petition for special town meeting and so forth. But one of the things we need to know before we start to negotiate is, are you people willing to purchase the property? No matter what we purchase, we're going to have to pay for and we will be coming back with a price that you would determine whether that was fair in your minds and support, or no it was not, and then we would not purchase the property and that's where the negotiations of the agreement and the option to buy would come into play." Karen Sticht," Mr. Moderator, I will withdraw my amendment, but I'm not willing to tell you that I want to purchase a piece of property without knowing the price." Response from Mr. Russell," If I could further explain a little bit. What the wording is, is to actually send a signal to the people that own the church. What they need to know is if we have an interest in the property, as a Town. That's what we're asking you, do we have an interest in purchasing the property. Obviously it's going to have to be at a reasonable price, we know that and they know that. The Church wants to know if we do have an interest. Other wise their next option is to go out and put the Church on the open market, which defeats our right of first refusal."

Jim Waldron," Peter, I basically agree with what you just said. If that's what you want, then that's how it should be worded in an article or an amendment. I can not vote for the article as Mr. Hughes has presented it. The previous amendment has been withdrawn, correct?" Moderator Losee," It has." Mr. Waldron," I would like to amend this properly so that everybody here knows what's going on, understands what they're voting on, so the Board of Selectmen can know how the Town feels." Moderator Losee, " I would like to have all motions and amendments in writing." (At this time, Mr. Waldron was given time to write down his amendment) Mr. Losee asked if there was any further discussion.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Selectman Hughes, " If Mr. Waldron's suggestion, I think if he was willing that the motion could read," That I move that the Town is interested in purchasing the Calvary Bible Church property Tax Map in a future year and will allow the Town to negotiate an agreement for said purpose. Striking out the two words,"will agree" and then put, " is interested in, and making that purchasing. I think that might work Jim." (There was conversation back and forth from Mr. Waldron and Moderator Losee in the wording of the amendment and they finally agreed to the following.) "To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate an agreement for the possible purchase of the Calvary Bible Church Property(Tax Map U07-Lot50) in a future year for municipal use." Mr. Waldron,"The negotiations could start now?" Moderator Losee,"Correct." Mr. Waldron," I would like to purpose that, as an amendment, unless Mr. Hughes would like to withdraw his original motion and have this as the motion." Moderator Losee," First we have to have a second, for purposes of discussion." Mr. Hughes," I second the motion so we can talk about it.

The motion amendment, as stated, is more of an article and does not have a positive affect with the words,"see if." The amendment should read "that I move that the Town is authorized to have the Selectmen negotiate and so forth, but you can't have, "to see if". At this time Mr. Waldron said Mr. Hughes was correct, "you have to move, so I support that." Further discussion: Brian Allen," Does the Town have a value on this property?" Mr. Russell," Because it is an exempt property, we have an estimate. There is no tax, the estimate is \$420,000.00, that's what we propose to offer the church." Mr. Allen, " Has there been an appraisal on the property. by an independent source other than somebody from the church or the Town." Mr. Russell," The church has had an appraisal done on the property, the Town has not. We don't have any money unless you agree here tonight." Mr. Allen," Will the church tell the Town what their appraisal came in at?" Harry Wood responded," Please be aware that there is no current agreement with the Town, none whatsoever. No price has been set. The church conducted it's own appraisal by Lamprey Appraisers, here in Meredith and received last August an estimated value of \$361,000.00."

Response from Mr. Hughes," I think that until the Board of Selectmen and the Calvary Church people have sat down in a negotiation session, that the talking of dollars kind of screws up the issue. That we have never, as a Board, talked any dollar amounts. I think we've heard two numbers and theirs is lower, so from here, where do we go. To negotiate a bargain with three hundred people being able to observe and participate in that is quite ridiculous. What we need is the ability for the Selectmen to have the authority to negotiate with the church and then when we have a definite firm fixed price with a signed agreement that that price is binding , then it's time for all of us to pick it apart. I don't think we should be talking about prices now, that's a year away.

Larry McGourty," I think the problem started with the idea, with the way this was written, it seems like it authorizes the Selectmen to negotiate and purchase the property with out coming back to the residents. I understand that the Selectmen want to start negotiations now and then come back to the people with a price for a vote. If you would just change this to say , " To see if the Town agrees to purchase the Calvary Bible Church property (Tax Map U07, Lot50) in a future year and a price agreed upon by voters and to allow the Town to negotiate an agreement for said purchase for municipal use, negotiations to start immediately." That I think, solves everyone's issues." Bob Flanders then stated that there was an amendment on the floor and that should be resolved before going on and we're spending too much time on this issue. Tom Boriso asked if there was Town Counsel and if he should be here to properly word this amendment. Mr. Hughes responded, " We do have Town Counsel and we pay for him when we use him, and we do not have the need to pay an attorney to sit here from 7:00 to an unknown hour to assist us in making decisions. That we have used common sense, and worded this to the best of our abilities, you have pointed out errors to us in the wording to bring it to light and that's what this meeting does, we don't need attorneys to solve everything." Mr. Boriso, " I make a motion to move the amendment for vote."

Moderator Losee then moved the question. Mr. Hughes, "When the question is moved, that is a motion to cut off debate and you should take a question to see if the folks are ready to shut off debate. The next vote would be on the motion." Mr. Losee,"No." Selectman Whitcher stated "There are no people standing in front of the microphones, I think it's fair to say that we're ready to move the question." Mr. Hughes response, "The motions been made and seconded , your disenfranchising them if you don't act on his motion." Moderator Losee, "The motion is to move the question." That motion passes. So the question is, this is the last wording that we had, " To moved that the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate an agreement for the purchase of the Calvary Bible Church Property (Tax Map U07,Lot 50) in a future year for municipal use." Vote was taken on the motion and passed. Mr. Hughes stated, " We now have to vote on it as amended. That was an amendment to the motion." Moderator Losee, "We voted on the amended motion , we don't have to vote on the original motion."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

POINT OF ORDER: John Hodgdon, "Mr. Hughes, was right. The vote we took was on first, to limiting debate, and then we had to vote on the amendment next. All you characterized is the motion, that was the amendment to substitute the words for that which is printed in here. So the motion still has not been voted on, what passed was to amend it." Moderator Losee, "We will now vote on the amended motion. The amended motion is, 'To move that the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate an agreement for the purchase of the Calvary Bible Church property (Tax Map U07, Lot50) in a future year for municipal use.'" Moderator Losee, "All those in favor of the article as amended."

THE AMENDED ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE 12

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for the purpose of State Aid Reconstruction Program -2 to 1 match for improvements to various roads under the State Aid Reconstruction Program, provided that the State of New Hampshire appropriates Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00)." Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by Selectman Whitcher, "I move that the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 as stated." Seconded by Selectman Hughes.

DISCUSSION: "Selectman Whitcher, 'The roads covered by this program in the Town of Meredith are, Meredith Neck Road, Barnard Ridge Road, Pease Road and Winona Road.'" Discussion: Robin Davis asked the question, "Aren't all of those state road? Why would we want to appropriate money to improve state roads?" Response from Mr. Russell, "Those particular roads are shared roads, they're state roads a portion of the year and Town roads a portion of the year. So they are in that program. Luckily, the state budget has raised enough money to do some work on those roads without utilizing this fund. It is also something we can use for improvements, such as when the lights were installed up by McDonalds, we used this fund as well. The State pays 2/3rds and we pay 1/3rd." No further discussion. Moderator Losee moved the article.

VOTE TAKEN AND MOTION PASSED

ARTICLE 13

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Million, Four Hundred Ninety Six Thousand and Ninety Six Dollars, (\$7,496,096.00) for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget." Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by Selectman Hughes, "I move that the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,496,096.00 for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year's budget (which includes articles 5 through 10 and 12). Seconded by Selectman Lessard. Discussion: Mr. Hughes, "If this particular budget is passed, we anticipate the Town portion of the tax rate will remain at \$6.89 per \$1,000. valuation. Items of a capital nature in this article are within the Highways and Streets line item, \$95,000. for a replacement 6-wheeler. Funding for the Athletic Fields and Tennis courts behind Prescott Park for \$195,000.00. The Town approved a bond issuance at the 1998 Town Meeting in the amount of \$500,000.00 for Athletic fields and Tennis courts and that the Selectmen were going to repay over a 2 year basis. So rather than increasing the tax rate as was presented and approved last year at Town Meeting, we plan on appropriating a \$195,000.00 of the \$500,000.00 via use of fund balance within the operating budget in 1999. By utilizing fund balance there is no increase in the tax rate. There is a potential for an increase in the tax rate if articles 18,19 and 20 are passed. The budget provides the necessary monies to operate Town government and to provide the needs of our citizens. The other articles are for wishes that we are willing to support."

DISCUSSION: Bob Ambrose, "I would like to amend Article 13, to direct the Selectmen to join other 'donor' communities in any activity or lawsuit against the enactment of a statewide property tax which unfairly burdens the elderly and low income residents of Meredith." Seconded by Tom Boriso. Bob Ambrose, "We're facing some major changes in the way we fund education in this state. All three changes before the legislature now incorporate a statewide property tax, in one form or another. The thrust of that is to take money from the property rich towns, which is 20% of the taxpayers, and redistribute it to the other towns. Towns like Meredith which has an average per capita income of \$17,000. sending money to Amherst, which has an average income of \$34,000. to help educate their kids. Obviously we have a problem because we're in the vast minority, with 20% of the voters. The proposals out there do incorporate state wide property taxes, although the Speakers proposal did have after Portsmouth reacted in a way that I hope this amendment, the message that we send with this amendment, the Speakers plan did provide for grants back to property rich towns so they were held some what harmless by the state wide property tax."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Hager-Below Bill, has a statewide property tax which will raise about Two Hundred Million Dollars, it does have a Homestead exemption in there so it doesn't hit so hard. The Governors plan, which has just come out and no one knows the details yet but the plan is to raise over Four Hundred Million Dollars through the statewide property tax. So I think its fare to say that towns like Meredith are going to be hit hard. As a Town Meeting we can effectively raise our voices and say that we don't agree that this is the proper way to deal with this issue. Poorer income towns are paying the way for richer income towns who don't necessarily have the property values that we have. The Town Manager has been involved with this and I believe that this could be the most important issue to face this Town Meeting in the last century. This is a clear way to send a message to the legislature that we're not going to accept this easily. We are a minority, but we have the opportunity to be a vocal minority in the Town Meeting form of government and I hope that we use it." Tom Boriso, "To follow up, don't penalize communities like Meredith, who do a good job on their budgets, by having them pay for communities that don't come about and do a good job with their budgets."

Senator Carl Johnson, "I support this amendment. In my ten years in the Legislature I have never had as many phone calls and letters as I have had about this issue. We're working hard to try to defeat that and I think we have a pretty good shot at it, but if we can send this message to the rest of the body in Concord it will help." No further discussion. Moderator Losee, "This is an addition to the original article. The amend to the article will be," and to further direct the Selectmen to join other "donor" communities in any activity or lawsuit against the enactment of a state-wide property tax which unfairly burdens the elderly and low income residents of Meredith." Those in favor of the amendment. Motion carries. No further discussion on the original article. The Moderator then moved the Article: "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,496,096.00, for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget and to further direct the Selectmen to join other "donor" communities in any activity or lawsuit against the enactment of a state-wide property tax which unfairly burdens the elderly and low income residents of Meredith."

VOTE TAKEN AND ARTICLE CARRIED – VOTE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 14

"Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict cable franchise fee revenues and to expend those funds for the purpose of cable related improvements within the Town of Meredith?" Such revenues and expenditures shall be accounted for in a special revenue fund to be known as the Cable Improvements Fund, separate from the general fund. Any surplus in said fund shall not be deemed part of the general fund accumulated surplus and shall be expended only after a vote by the legislative body to appropriate funds annually. Further, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum up to Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) (representing the 1998 revenues from cable franchise fees) for this purpose and to authorize the transfer of this amount from the December 31, 1998 general fund unreserved fund balance. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Lessard, "I move that the Town will adopt the provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict cable franchise fee revenues and to expend those funds for the purpose of cable improvements within the Town of Meredith: To account for said funds as stated and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 for this purpose and to authorize the transfer of this amount from the December 31, 1998 general fund unreserved fund balance as presented." Seconded by Selectman Chris Whitcher.

DISCUSSION: Tom Boriso, "Do we have any money in this fund so far?" Town Manager Peter Russell responded, "At this point in time we're asking to establish this fund so, we don't. We're funding this amount of money \$30,000.00, which we anticipate through our cable franchise fees for cable type improvements in our community. For example, the public access studio will just be starting up over at the Huot Technical Center in Laconia. We're also working to wire with fiber optics from the schools to our governmental buildings probably next month." Hearing no further discussion, the Moderator read the article. Point of order by Jim Waldron for clarification on "RSA 31:95-c, not RSA 31:19-c, and Cable Improvements, not Capital Improvements." Point of order taken, and clarified to the voting body.

VOTE TAKEN – ARTICLE PASSED

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARTICLE 15

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000.00) originally appropriated at the March 1998 Town Meeting to asphalt pave a portion of Camp Waldron Road (a Class V Town Road) from pavement ending near the intersection of Chemung Road up to and including the intersection with Swain Road rather than double chip seal as previously voted." Further, to authorize the transfer of this amount from the December 31, 1998 reserved general fund balance. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Whitcher: "I move that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$55,000.00 and to authorize the transfer of this amount from the December 31, 1998 reserved general fund balance as read." Mr. Hughes then seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Paige Kuether, "How much did we appropriate last year to do this work?" Response from Mr. Russell, "We appropriated \$55,000.00 to double chip seal. The problem at Town Meeting last year a number of people spoke on the volume of traffic the road was receiving. When the original recommendation was presented by our interim Public Works Director, he'd recommended double chip seal for a rural road. With what we were hearing, we thought that that was not the way to be going, but with the asphalt paving. The way it was worded was for specifically double chip seal, the Selectmen did not feel comfortable changing it to asphalt paving without coming back to you this year and make sure you agree with it. The money is available, the work will be accomplished for the \$55,000. it was appropriated last year." Paige Kuether, "Is this a new amount that we're adding to the budget?" Mr. Russell, "No, this is actually the appropriation to extend last years money for asphalt paving instead of double chip seal." No further discussion. Moderator Lossee moved the article.

VOTE TAKEN – MOTION CARRIED

ARTICLE 16

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) for the purpose of providing the Police Department funds to improve the current police boat or provide a different boat for protection services and to authorize the withdrawal from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund." Recommend by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Jim Hughes: "I move that the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 and will authorize the withdrawal of said funds from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund as stated." Selectman Lessard seconded the motion. No Discussion, Moderator Losee moved the article.

MOTION CARRIED

ARTICLE 17

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing a new photocopier for the Police Department and to authorize the withdrawal from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund." Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Lessard, "I move that the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000.00 for the purchase of a new photocopier for the Police Department and will authorize the withdrawal of said funds from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund as presented." Seconded by Selectman Whitcher.

DISCUSSION: Sandy Mucci, "How was the number 6,000. arrived at?" Mr. Russell responded, "The Police have actually gone out and previewed a number of machines and have found the one that would best fit their needs." Sandy Mucci then stated, "\$6,000.00 seems like a lot of money for a copy machine." Mr. Russell, "We've shopped around and this is what we're looking for, to meet the volume of work they have." No further discussion. Moderator Losee moved the article.

VOTE TAKEN – MOTION CARRIED

ARTICLE 18

"To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00) to support the Kidworks Learning Center, a non-profit child care and learning center, specifically the food program." Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by Selectman Whitcher, "I move that the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000.00 as presented." Seconded by Selectman Hughes.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DISCUSSION: Karen Sticht" Why was this made a separate warrant article, if the Town supports any other Daycare's, to what extent, and what is the monies for the other Daycare's used for?" Response by Selectman Witcher," The Kidworks Learning Center approached the Board of Selectmen last year for a onetime appropriation, this year they are asking for another appropriation. This may be a yearly budgetary item now. I don't think this is a one time appropriation." Town Finance Director Jeff Towne then spoke, " The other part of your question, I believe was, do we support another Daycare Center? We do support another Daycare Center, the Inter-Lakes Daycare Center in this budget with a request of \$19,286.00." Karen Sticht then asked," We know this money is going for the food program. What is the \$19,000.00 used for and why wasn't that pulled out as a separate warrant article also, or why aren't they together or both in the budget?" Mr. Hughes responded," The Inter-Lakes Daycare Center had been a separate warrant article in the past, and in years past we have lumped these single item warrant articles and included them in the budget. But every so often we do bring them back before the people as separate warrant articles to see if your still willing to support them and if it continues then we would be considering including it in the regular operating budget." Mr. Towne then spoke," In their letter to the Board of Selectmen," To maintain and to continue the system of services of the Inter-Lakes Daycare Center, the amount requested is the sum equal to 73%, of the total of the 26,386.00 which must be raised in local funding under Title 20. That's principally what it's used for." No Further discussion.

VOTE TAKEN – MOTION PASSED

ARTICLE 19

"We the undersigned voters of Meredith, petition the Selectmen of the Town of Meredith to place on the Town Warrant the provision to repave the road known as Circle Drive, A Town accepted road. Tax Map #U11." (Petitioned by 25 or more legal voters of the Town of Meredith.) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars(\$15,000.00)(which is an estimate) for the purpose of paving Circle Drive. Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Discussion: Mr. Hughes," I move that we pass over or officially take no action on this article." Motion was seconded by Selectman Lessard. No discussion on the motion. Motion to pass over the article by Moderator Losee.

VOTE TAKEN – MOTION CARRIED

ARTICLE 20

"We the undersigned, who are all registered voters in the Town of Meredith, petition the Town of Meredith to place the following Warrant Article in the Meredith Town Warrant to be voted on at Town Meeting March 10, 1999: The Town of Meredith is directed to secure any and all easements and/or rights of way from all property owners in order to provide a pathway in Meredith Center from the Meredith Center Co-op to Childs Park, such pathway being necessary to protect the health, welfare and safety of the residents of Meredith Center, their guests, and all other children and adults who may use Childs Park. All property owners granting easements shall be held harmless for any injuries which occur on the pathway. The Town of Meredith shall maintain the pathway in safe and passable condition and shall be responsible for all future maintenance and repair of the pathway; and the Town of Meredith shall restore any areas adjacent to the pathway to the condition they were in before any maintenance and repair were performed." (This was petitioned by 25 or more legal voters in the Town of Meredith)

DISCUSSION: Lucienne Boulanger," I would like to amend the article to add the sum of \$50,000.00.00" Seconded by Bill Taggett. Discussion on the amendment, Kevin Peverly," What's the \$50,000.00 for?" Lucienne Boulanger responded," The estimated \$50,000.00 needed to be put in the budget so they could have something to work with. We estimated about a thousand feet on this pathway. Our major big expense on this pathway is going to be a bridge that's going to go behind an already very narrow state highway bridge. In order to provide a safe path for children and adults alike to travel. The reason we put in the \$50,000.00, we looked at the two current sidewalks that were rebuilt in Meredith, the one that goes from the boat landing on Waukegan to the beach and the one on the hill that goes from Wall St. to 104 and averages it out to be \$50,000.00." Kevin Peverly asked," Is this in the current budget and what effect will it have on the tax rate?" Response by Moderator Losee," This is not included in the current budget and it will effect the tax rate 8 1 2 cents per thousand." Bob Flanders then spoke as the Chairman of the Capital Improvements Committee," For the last few years, when we've had issues come up here at the Town Meeting, people have said, this is what we're going to spend this year, and what's coming at us next year and the year after? The Capital Improvement Committee is the responsibility of the Planning Board and after doing some research, I found that, I believe in 1985, that the Town voted to have a Capital Improvements Committee. There's a state RSA which covers this and it directs the Capital Improvements Committee to look forward for a period of a minimum of six years and as much as ten years.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DISCUSSION: This process has already been started and the purpose of this process is to maintain a stable tax rate. We have a process, a project identification form available to people if they have a project of this nature, to fill out and it answers questions. We have an evaluation process which is established and to go forth with this \$50,000. it's coming out of the blue, would fly in the face of this whole process. Other Department heads and other individuals that would want a project of this nature to take place, fill out the CIP form. It gets reviewed and if it's deemed worthy it gets put in the process in such a manner that the tax rate remains stable. I don't think a whole lot of solid thought has gone into this and as a tax payer and the chairman of the Capital Improvements Committee, I would encourage us to vote against this amendment and also this article at this time, for those reasons."

Selectman Hughes responded, " With all due respect to Mr. Flanders, in the great work he and his committee are doing in bring about a Capital Improvements Program. This CIP and the committee work that has gone on this past year is not generally known to the public and they are getting started developing the CIP, developing their criteria by which projects can be evaluated. But in spite of any Capital Improvement Program, all citizens have the right to petition Town Meeting to do something on the Towns behalf and this project is not new, it's been discussed last summer with a meeting at the Meredith Center Fire Station. It was followed up with some committee work by the people of Meredith Center, they came before the Board of Selectmen, and I think they are on their way to accomplishing something for the benefit of the people of Meredith Center.

Admitted, the \$50,000.00 coming in at this time was not talked about in the beginning, but it is now a fair estimate, and I will be casting a favorable vote to the amendment and the article, with the understanding that we will hire an engineer to research the project, get the estimate of the cost, the permits necessary and the easements from the property holders as needed and then go forth seeking bids. It may be a project that will not be completed in 1999, but if you people approve it at this time, the money may be carried over and put in the reserve fund balance as an encumbrance to be used next year and I hope that you will support this. There is a flyer explaining the CIP, it is very well done and we have a lot to be thankful for with it." Jennifer Mayo, " Have other sources of funding been explored, such as grants? This is the type of project that may have other sources of funding available?"

Response from Mr. Russell, " We did look at the 10 year highway plan in relation to the 2 year plan and we did make a proposal to have it included through the Lakes Region Planning Commission, it did not score high enough to be considered for funding at the state level. The concern that I voiced, when I met with the residents last summer, I'm not sure that this can be accomplished to meet state and federal law in relation to the Americans With Disabilities Act. My concern is that we can't spend money if it doesn't. So I think the first step would be to see if an engineer could in fact design a pathway and a bridge because we have a major brook crossing and we're going to need at least State of New Hampshire DES approval, we may even need Army Corp of Engineer approval to bridge the brook.

Then we have the ADA issue in the construction of the pathway. If in fact we can't comply with ADA, then legally we can not build this. We would lose, probably in the vicinity of a million, to a million and a half-dollars in grants that we received over the last 15 years. The understanding that legally if we can do this, we'd like to, but on the other hand we're not sure that we can." Lucienne Boulanger continued speaking, " The main frame of this is safety. What brought this all about was, granted they said the child wasn't hit by a vehicle but, the child was knocked off a very narrow bridge, and the State did come in and take both of our sidewalks away from us in 1991. We have a very narrow bridge and we're just trying to comply with a safe place for our children and families to walk on. Everyone who attends the Childs Parks Programs are well aware of the traffic problems. In order to get a crosswalk, we have to have a pathway. The State sent back a letter to us saying, we're going to enlarge your signs, and they did, but it's still not protecting the people in Meredith Center. Granted, we are in Meredith Center and it is a State Highway but we strongly feel the Town should back us so we have a safe place to walk."

Louann Breen spoke, " Since this is a money article, I would like to know if the Board recommends or doesn't recommend this article.?" Mr. Whitcher answered, " At our last Board of Selectmen's Meeting, two Selectmen were present, the third one was not, that was Mr. Hughes. He has stated that he will vote in favor of this particular amendment and this article. Both Mr. Lessard and myself also spoke in favor at the last Selectman's Meeting concerning this article. So, yes we do support it." Robin Davis spoke, " Do we plan to maintain the sidewalk during the winter months?" Mr. Russell responded, " The people from Meredith Center and Mrs. Boulanger , when she presented this petition said that they were not seeking winter maintenance. It doesn't say that in the article, but that's what we were told." Bob Ambrose spoke, " I would like to react to what Jim said. I'm serving on the Capital Improvement Committee along with Bob and other people in the Town and I don't think we want to imply that people don't have the right to petition, to come in for projects that may not be approved by the Planning Board and Selectmen.

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What we're trying to do is set up a procedure to look at all the projects and recognize that if the Selectmen have, for years now, voted to try to stabilize the tax rate, and then if we come in and say we are going to appropriate \$50,000.00 for this project, that that's going to bump somebody else's project off the list, that's if we're intending to stay with that stabilized tax rate. The concern that I have, is that there doesn't seem to be any planning on this project. As I read this article, it's just to secure easements and now someone has come in and said \$50,000.00. Doesn't seem to be any authorization for construction, so is that \$50,000.00 just to pay for easements? It appears to me that if we're going to follow through with the idea that if we're going to do some planning for these Capital Improvements Projects that we ought to, in fact, do that planning and then bring them in and not be faced with, I think the Town Manager has thrown, we may lose a million dollars in grants, if we don't comply with certain regulations.

My concern is that we haven't done the planning on this, the vote is just authorizing us to spend \$50,000.00 to purchase easements." Brad Sprague, "How far is this sidewalk going to go and where it's going to go? I think they really need something over there but is \$50,000. or how much thought has been put into it? We don't want to start half way and not have enough to finish it. The distance I'm trying to find out." Lucienne Boulanger responded, "There's a map back on the wall and it shows the estimated route, it's about a thousand feet. The only reason why, and I'm going to state it two more times, the \$50,000.00 was a suggestion by Selectmen Hughes, that we put a money amount in here so that it will be acted upon and not just shelved. I don't feel it's a Capital Improvement Project when we're talking a safety factor." Dennis Boulanger spoke, "Some of these people have to know what it's like to live in Meredith Center. We requested the police to please try to catch these people speeding, nothing happens. I know that they're there once in awhile, but not always. Mr. Ambrose just spoke about money. Well he hasn't been there when Ambrose trucks go through Meredith Center, they're kind of fast and they're kind of heavy and they're real, real dangerous. Some of these people need to take a walk with me, if you dare."

Pam Finer spoke, "You mentioned that you need an engineer to know what's going on and to make plans. How much is that going to cost and is it coming out of the \$50,000.00 or is there going to be extra money we have to pay for an engineer?" Mr. Russell responded, "We would have to use it out of the \$50,000.00. What we need to do is certify it to ourselves, that in fact the bridge crossing across the brook can be built and the pathway can be built, that it meets the Federal and State standards with Americans with Disabilities Act and to get all the permits. That would have to come from the \$50,000." Pam Finer, "So basically this \$50,000. is for figuring out if we can do it. Then we figure out that we can do it, is there more money it's going to cost?" Mr. Russell, "I don't think it will cost us \$50,000. for the engineer. My estimate, again it's just an estimate, would be in the vicinity of 8 to 10 thousand dollars. For the engineering, the permits from the DES and the Army Corps, if necessary," Pam Finer asked, "Do the residents of Meredith Center think that the rest of the money left over from the \$50,000.00 will do what they want to do, or will they need more?"

Mr. Russell, "I think they're hopeful that it would do that and I know that they would also like to volunteer some time and material in the program. I think that their goal is to accomplish the pathway for \$50,000. but we certainly can't tell you that that can happen." Pam Finer spoke, "And this is going to go on private property?" Mr. Russell, "What's being proposed is to go from the Mobile Home park to Childs Park on private property." Interjection by Moderator Losee, "With easements." Pam Finer continued, "Is it possible for them to walk on the private property now? Is it clear enough to go though. If people are willing to give them permission to go across their backyards anyway, why do we have to spend \$50,000.00 to put a pathway through there?" Mr. Russell, "Right now it would not be possible, you have a major brook crossing. It's the outlet from Lake Wicwas. It goes between the Mobile Home Park and some of the other properties and you also have some trees and an elevation change from the bridge up to Childs Park. There's quite a bit that would have to go into it, as it stand right now there is no direct route to go across the lots to get to the park."

Dave Kuether spoke, "I have two questions. Is this a State Road?" Moderator Losee, "Yes, it is." Mr. Kuether, "My second question or rather a comment, is about that bridge, which is too narrow even only when trucks and cars are using it. We have a choice and the choice is to wait until somebody gets seriously hurt and sue the State. We need a larger bridge and foot path and I'm in favor of this article." Mr. Hughes then asked Moderator Losee to read the amendment in it's entirety. "The amendment is just to raise and appropriate \$50,000.00. That's what we'll vote on first to add that to the article, if that passes then I'll read the amended article." Moderator Losee then recognized a speaker. Steve Walton "I'm wondering if the State has a plan for replacing the bridge and if at that time they'd made a wider bridge with a pedestrian walk along side of it, if that would solve the problem in a long term perspective in a better way?" Mr. Russell responded, "At this point in time, the State does not have any plans for bridge improvements on that, for the next 10 to 15 years."

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Hannah Towle, of Waukegan St. "I would love to be able to vote for this. It sounds like a couple of concerns have been raised mainly to do with the process and how the funding is set up. I don't have any amendment in mind, but is there a way to word it so that those two things can be addressed?" Moderator Losee indicated that he didn't know if he followed exactly what she was asking and if she would state her name again and clarify her question. "Hannah Towle. The process for getting the proper permits and so forth, making sure that it's done properly. Is there a way of making sure that's included? That we're just not saying that we're going to do it but that it's going to be done properly? It sounds like there are a lot of concerns also about what the funding would be, is there any way of making that clearer and also the maintenance question and should that be clarified in the article or does that happen somewhere else?" Mr. Russell, "I think that through general discussion that we would go through the proper procedures. We would have to hire an engineer as a first step to see what the availability is. We would have to look at the bridge across the brook and secure what ever permits are necessary because we can't build it without that, it violates State law and possibly Federal law. We would also have to make sure that it did meet the Americans With Disabilities Act doing the construction. Otherwise if the Town spent monies, either myself or the Board of Selectmen could all be removed from office for breaking Federal law, which I don't think any of us are willing to do. That would be the first step, to go though and get all the permits necessary. As far as the maintenance question, it has to be answered by the petitioners.

We have had private conversations with Mrs. Boulanger but I think she would probably like to address that to the Town Meeting as far as the winter maintenance goes." Liz Lapham then spoke, "I wonder if this would be an amendment to an amendment. Seems to me if we could appropriate \$10,000. for this engineering study and come up with where we stand on this that that may be a compromise we might look at tonight, if the people of Meredith Center were willing to look at it in that regard." Linda French, "I would just like to make a statement. I live near Meredith Center Road and I have seen the park grow in the past couple of years. It is not just a Meredith Center concern, everyone that uses the Park has a concern and I don't think \$50,000.00 is too much to ask for the safety of our residents." Selectman Whitcher commented, "In most projects, most people will agree, that materials are fairly inexpensive, but your labor costs are extremely huge. The people of Meredith Center, the meeting that I attended, stated that we don't have a lot of money, but we do have time that we can contribute to make this project work. I think this is a key factor. These folks are asking for \$50,000.00 to begin and end a project. Monies left over from the project will be returned to the general fund and you may not see the entire 8 1/2 cent per thousand impact on your taxes." Moderator Losee then asked Mrs. Boulanger to address the winter maintenance question that was raised, possibly making it part of the article. Mrs. Boulanger, "We realize that they don't do the two sidewalks that we talked about in the winter, we're not expecting ours to be done in the winter. We just want a safe place for at least three seasons, from spring time through summer vacation into the fall." Moderator Losee asked, "if she would be willing to add to her amendment as to the stipulation of winter maintenance." Mrs. Boulanger's response, "Yes, I would."

Moderator Losee, "Is the second to that amendment agreeable?" (Visually, Bill Taggett raised his hand). Moderator Losee, "The amendment will be to see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 and to exclude winter maintenance on said pathway." Point of Order by Geoff Cunningham: "I'd like to hear the article as amended, how it definitely reads. Nothing in the article says anything about to build it." Mrs. Boulanger, "In the amendment it says," To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 in order to secure any and all easements and right of ways from all the property owners, in order to provide a pathway in Meredith Center." That means for the Town to do the pathway, sidewalk, whatever you want to call it. To build it, maintain it and have the engineers figure out what they're going to do about it." Mr. Hughes stated that, "We're on the amendment, we should vote on the amendment and then go back to the article." Moderator Losee once again stated the amendment, "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000. and to exclude winter maintenance from said pathway."

VOTE TAKEN – THE AMENDMENT PASSED

Moderator Losee read the Amended article, "The Town of Meredith is directed to secure any and all easements and/or rights of way from all property owners in order to provide a pathway in Meredith Center from the Meredith Center Co-op to Childs Park, such a pathway being necessary to protect the health, welfare and safety of the residents of Meredith Center, their guests, and all other children and adults who may use Childs Park. All property owners granting easements shall be held harmless for any injuries which occur on the pathway. The Town of Meredith shall maintain the pathway in safe and passable condition, excluding winter maintenance and shall be responsible for all future maintenance and repair of the pathway; and the Town of Meredith shall restore any areas adjacent to the pathway to the condition they were in before any maintenance and repair were performed and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.

Mr. Losee asked if everyone understood the amended article. Mr. Boriso," This is pending on the easements being secured that this money will be spent. If the easements to the properties where this foot path is going is not gotten, is the money going back to the tax payers?" Mrs. Boulanger responded," We have the easements and all you have to do, is go and do whatever legally you need to do. We have Meredith Center Co-op, the Ames Family, the Eckert Family, the Carlton-Whitworth Family and the other land owner is the Town itself." Moderator Losee asked," Now does everyone understand the article?" No further discussion.

VOTE TAKEN ON THE ARTICLE AS AMENDED – ARTICLE PASSED

Mr. Hughes, " Mr. Moderator, I'd like a point of privilege at this moment. I know that the next article may take more or less time than this one and then the hall is apt to empty. At the beginning of the Meeting, Mr. Russell Town Manager, gave thanks to many people. Now three years ago you may have heard me say some of the words that I'm going to say next. I did not always agree with Paul Lessard, we had consensus and there were times we would have a two to one vote but many, many more times we had a three to nothing vote. And at this time, for the easement of everybody, to get you so you can relax and to be able to do it a little bit differently, I would wish that we would all now stand and give him a rising vote of thanks for the work he has done in the past six years." Mr. Lessard spoke," I'm a little touched by Jim's kind words and I know that some people think that six years ago, when we had a write-in campaign and Jim was unseated and I came on board, a lot of people thought that Jim and I were at each others throat, and that could never be further from the truth because Jim it has been a pleasure to work with you for six years and maybe down the road we'll work together again. I want to thank the Town's folks for all the support you have given me and I know a lot of you disagree with me sometimes but that's part of the process and the nature of the game. I will always continue to speak my mind because that's the right I have in this country and that you have and everybody else has. Thank you very much."

ARTICLE 21

"To see if the Town will vote to enter into a long term lease with the Winnepesaukee Flagship Corporation for the purpose of extending and maintaining the existing dock currently being used and maintained by the Corporation's vessel the Doris E. Said lease negotiations and terms to be finalized by the President of the Winnepesaukee Flagship Corporation and a Town representative designated by the Meredith Board of Selectmen. The total cost of construction of said extension improvements to be paid by the Winnepesaukee Flagship Corporation and will accommodate the Meredith docking facilities for the Motor Ship " Mount Washington "(The "Mount") to make Meredith a port of call. Note: Long term lease defined as: Minimum of a ten (10) year lease with two (2) renewal terms." (Petitioned by 25 or more legal voters of the Town of Meredith) Rusty McLear," So moved as read." Seconded by Bill Finer.

DISCUSSION: Elizabeth Brunell," The improvements are being paid for by the Flagship Corporation and annual maintenance is covered by who? (In the background, on audio answer Flagship Corporation. Brunell," And maintenance also? Yes, response from unknown person who answered.) Brunell," Will the Flagship line be the only profit business allowed to do that? How is it that the Town can enter into an negotiation or an agreement with one? If other people are in this same line of business, would they be excluded? Or be able to do the same thing with the Town?" Response from Selectman Whitcher," At the present moment there is a Town Ordinance that prohibits commercial activities at the Town docks in Meredith, it further states that any docks in Meredith along the shore line, any Town owned properties prohibited from commercial activities. How the Doris E and the Sophie C have been allowed to operate from that dock, there is no legal paper trail that states we've given them permission. This gets really sticky. The Sophie C or the Doris E, which ever boat it is that has been docking at the Town docks for a number of years. I believe since the early 50's, 1951 perhaps was the earliest year. Your question, "Would other boats be able to operate from there, my answer is, Yes, they should be able to operate from that dock. But we have an issue here, there presently is a Town Ordinance that prohibits commercial activity." Elizabeth Brunell speaks once more," The negotiations, this article gives permission for a representative to negotiate but it doesn't appear that you'd be bringing back the conditions to the voters, your asking for the ability to negotiate, in good faith, without bringing it back to the voters or would you be bringing it back to the voters?" Response from Selectman Whitcher," No, we would not be bringing it back to the people, the Selectmen would be making the final decision through a negotiator." Brunell asked, " Do the Selectmen support this article?" Whitcher responded, " That discussion has not taken place." Moderator Losee stated that "The Selectmen don't have to take a position on a non dollar article." Mr. Hughes," I'm not afraid to take a stand. I support the article as stated, with the understanding that after the negotiations come before the Board of Selectmen for final approval and also that if any other commercial activity wanted to use the docks they would have to get authorization from this assembly to allow the Selectmen to do that."

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Judson Belmont spoke, " Could you please explain to me what benefit this is to the Town of Meredith. Is there some monetary benefit to the Town and what do we receive other than the dock that only one company can use and the added traffic and congestion related to that?" Mr. McLear responded, " Certainly, one of the easiest benefits to describe is the dock has two sides, we'll use one side, the Town gets to use the other side of the dock, which is the pump outs, which I believe the police boat has docked there for years also.

So, we'll build the dock, maintain the dock and the Town has the right to use the other side of the dock. There's also the obvious economic benefit, not only to our company but to the village as a whole downtown core, I believe and when we visit Wolfeboro, Alton and Center Harbor. Two years ago we reduced our schedule time we had available, to cruise from three and a quarter hours, to two and a half hours and in order to facilitate that reduction in time, we had to stop going to those communities as often as we did and we were brought before each of the communities, the Selectmen, Chambers of Commerce and told that they wanted us back more often than we were planning on coming in and that they felt that we were a plus to their communities and I believe we would be that same plus to this community." Anne Brienza spoke, " First I would like to say that it's a lovely boat, viewed from a distance, personal opinion. I would like to know if there has been any study done on the possible impact of pedestrian traffic, which will contribute to vehicular congestion, especially during the summer. Also the impact on the aqua therm that will probably be needed and on our derby and all our events in the winter that also bring in a considerable amount to the Town. I would also like to state that three out of the four towns that were just mentioned, have their businesses on the lake side, where the majority of ours are on a very large hill that needs to be climbed in the middle of the summer. So, I would like to know if these issues have been addressed or if anything has been thought out. One more point, how high is the dock, will it accommodate the average boats or just the Mount?" Mr. McLear, " Yes, the height of the dock will be, a portion of the dock will have a ramp on it which will allow people to board the Mount.

The other portion of the dock will be at regular boat level and shall be available for the average boat. As far as pedestrian discussions, yes. Two years ago, when we going through the planning process for the Chase House we spent a great deal of time with the Planning Board going through the pedestrian impact crossing the street, what we anticipate as the usage level. The usage level in Wolfeboro, right now, these are numbers from 1997, as I did this last year, so these are the same numbers I'm using. But last year, the average boarding in Wolfeboro was 71 passengers. The highest number in the entire season, was 166 passengers and we've been going there for a hundred years and it's a very satisfactory port for us. So if we are that successful, we will have some impact on the Town economically, but I don't think those numbers are large enough to create congestion or any other problems, and if we get to a point where there is a problem congestion wise, the Planning Board still has a review and the man process and they could stop us." Selectman Lessard stated, " The only question that he didn't address is the aqua therms and that's based on the fact that we're going to be extending the dock longer, putting a aqua therm on it, now what effect will it have on the Fishing Derby and other activities, was the other part of her question."

Mr. McLear responded, " The extending of the docks and the aqua therms, we felt that this dock was far enough down the line of docks that it wouldn't be a problem. But no serious study has been done on the aqua therm issue." Jeannie Boriso" I think Rusty has done a nice job in town I appreciate what he has done, it looks very nice coming in going out, if you can get in and out. Which brings me to the point, I'm still worried about the traffic in the summer. That little section on front of the Town docks is impossible to get through at any time. I think we have to really start thinking about the people that live here year round that can't even get to the Post Office. Every weekend we have something going on a pig roast, a craft fair, a pie contest, which is fine and I think if I came here as a tourist, as I did thirty years ago, I would be more than willing to drive the ten miles to Weirs to get on that boat because that's what tourists do, they drive around. The people who stay at the hotel, if they're interested in going there, why not make reservations at the front desk to hop on Molly the Trolley to go down and use that facility as well which is funded by various businesses in town too and also federally funded, I believe. For me to be able to see the lake, if I drive through town, I would have to rent a room to see it from the third floor. I would also like to request a secret ballot and I have the required signatures."

Judson Belmont, " I wonder what the future plans are for the Mount Washington. I agree with the lady who said it's nice to see from afar and I think we should continue looking at it that way. Assuming that all of us have been to Weirs Beach and know about the congestion down there. I can't blame this gentleman for wanting to move the epicenter of his ticket sales perhaps and his loadings from that congested area, which is a mob scene, to a place like Meredith. I would like us to keep that in mind." Mr. Lessard commented, " Just a clarification on that. The Planning Board has stipulated that the operation center can not be moved to Meredith. This is a clarification, and by answering that I'm not saying, one way or the other, at this time my position on it. The Planning Board has put 16 to 17 conditions on the Mount Washington coming in, the use of the Chase House facility in conjunction with the Mount and that needs to be understood."

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Judson Belmont, "So, would there be a limit on the number of loadings?" Mr. Lessard responded, "The Planning Board can correct me if I'm wrong. One of the conditions was that the Mount people would have to submit a schedule for use of the convention center prior to Memorial Day and also submit a schedule of the boat docking prior to Memorial Day and they can not conflict. So the use of the convention center can not be held on the day that the Mount Washington is coming in." Judson Belmont asked, "Is the Mount Washington going to be there every day, or every other day, just when?" Mr. Lessard said, "No. If they find that the convention center is being booked 3,4, or 5 days a week then the Mount would only be coming in two days a week."

There is also another condition where the Mount is limited to the loading and unloading of passengers only and there are 57 parking spaces reserved in the Chase House parking lots, specifically for the Mount, when they come in that day." Brian Moriarity, "I would also like to say that I think what Rusty's done with the looks of downtown is just terrific. I don't think there's a nicer looking community in New Hampshire. I'm opposed to the Mount Washington coming into Meredith and making it a port of call. The traffic downtown and people trying to get through Meredith on the weekends in the summer time, make people not want to come to Meredith any more. 57 parking spaces at the Chase House is nice if people come by car, but when the buses come to frequent the hotels and the pedestrian traffic increases and traffic has to stop every time that someone is in a crosswalk, people are not able to drive through there. I just don't think that this is a good thing for the Town of Meredith." Dennis Boulanger, "I have to agree, traffic is a problem. We shouldn't have something like this, it's bad enough. I work in town and I know what it's like day after day. In the summer time it's murder, and most of my other question have been answered already." Bob Ambrose addressed the Board, "My understanding is that the reason that this is before us, is in defining a long term lease, in order to enter into a long term lease, it has to be ratified by the Town Meeting. This came before Town Meeting last year, negotiated for a long time and got kicked back to Town Meeting, I believe for that reason because last year's Town Meeting never took a positive action to ratify any kind of lease. You've negotiated this over the years and it needs to be ratified by Town Meeting, so why didn't you just bring in the lease and the terms of the lease to be ratified by Town Meeting. So why are we now continuing to authorize you to negotiate, are you then going to bring the lease back into Town Meeting? Where do we stand on that issue? What are we ratifying?"

Response by Selectman Lessard, "Let us put this in perspective. First, we didn't bring this to you, they did. The Board of Selectmen, contrary to what you may have read in your newspaper, the history on this is that the proposal came to the Board of Selectmen for consideration for a lease agreement and what they were basing it on was some hear-say information, a sworn statement as to whether or not the Town of Meredith had an agreement with the motor ship Mount Washington. We met with the owners of the Mount Washington and Rusty, Ed Gardner, and we began discussing a lease agreement. Mr. Russell and the owners of the Mount Washington brought a lease agreement that this board could not come to an agreement on because it was based on inperpetuity. Two of us felt very uncomfortable with giving someone, a private company, inperpetuity rights to a Town owned dock. Even Mr. McLear has agreed that we own the dock, the Town of Meredith owns that dock. Then it was brought back to the Board for a thirty-year lease and again there was going to be some concern with the longevity of the lease agreement without Town Meeting approval. At that point the owners of the Mount Washington withdrew negotiating with the Town. Now you have before you a petitioned warrant article, under what they've come up with as a negotiation agreement, that they want the Town to enter into."

Bob Ambrose, "We are not voting to ratify an agreement. My understanding is that if it's a long-term lease, it has to be ratified by a vote of Town Meeting. Aren't we, from a legal standpoint, right back where we are. We've authorized you to continue negotiating, but once you have a long term lease, and you've agreed, that has to be ratified by Town Meeting?"

Response from Mr. Lessard, "I think you would have seen that, had the owners not withdrew negotiating with the Town and then brought forth a petitioned warrant article on their own. I think you would have seen this Board come to this meeting this year with a negotiated agreement, looking for ratification. That wasn't the case because they withdrew and said they wouldn't be talking to us about that." Mr. McLear also addressed the question, "It is also my understanding that this deliberative body didn't need to ratify the lease it's self, it needed to give permission to extend the lease beyond the three-year period. The Board had said, and I believe Mr. Lessard had said, that three years was all that they could agree to. Even negotiations with the Board, we agreed to every other condition. We have a list of some pretty substantial conditions, the Board agreed to, we agreed to. We just couldn't get beyond a three-year agreement."

This dock will cost somewhere between 70 and 100 thousand dollars to build and I think any prudent business person would say that a three year agreement, on that kind of investment, is not a good agreement, it is not worth doing. So we decided that we had just about everything else done, but we weren't going to get over that three year hurdle, at least in our opinion we weren't, so then we would come back to this group and ask you if you would direct the Selectmen to negotiate the longer term agreement and we'd pick the 10 year lease with renewals."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Bob Ambrose spoke again," my understanding that long-term lease agreements must be ratified by the legislative body of the town, which is the Town Meeting. That's why I'm wondering if that's where we're heading, why we don't have an agreement before us to ratify. We're just saying continue to negotiate, when you have a long term agreement, bring it to the Town Meeting to be ratified." Mr. Lessard responded," This Board, and as long as I've been on the Board, has always been of the understanding that we do not like to enter into any long term lease agreements beyond three years, without Town Meeting approval because of the changing of the Board all the time. That's where Mr. McLear got that from. I think that if we would have reached an agreement on the thirty-year deal, that was on the table at the time, or at least the majority of the Board would have, you would have seen that being brought forth tonight for ratification. But it was at their request to withdraw negotiating with us and the next thing you know, we had the petition." Mr. Russell addressed Bob Ambrose,"

Your question in relation to the long-term lease, effectively, this petition is addressing that, in that they're asking you to give the Selectmen authority or the Town, whoever they select, the authority to negotiate a longer than the three year lease, without coming back to Town Meeting. As Mr. McLear mentioned, they had pretty much agreement on all issues except for the term, so what they're really asking would be for the permission to lengthen the term from the three years to what's being purposed. I don't believe that we'd have to come back to Town Meeting for that." Bob Ambrose, " My understanding is that long term leases must be ratified by Town Meeting. We are not ratifying a lease. We are voting to allow the Selectmen to continue negotiating, they have not brought us a lease to ratify. I may be wrong, but that's my understanding." Mr. Russell responded," I think we disagree on that."

Herb Vadney spoke," I served on the Route 3 & 25 Task Force for the highway in front of the docks and I'd like to straighten out a little bit of the traffic question. That road sees more than 20 to 24 thousand cars a day in the summer time. Typical Friday night in the summer, it sees more than 3 thousand cars an hour. The 100 or 150 cars that the Mount could bring to that in a days time would be absolutely trivial, as far as the traffic issue goes." Cam Davis, " I have one question Rusty. The lease that you now have with the Weirs, when will that expire?" Rusty responded," It's a thirty year fixed lease with a twenty year renewal that started in 1986, so I believe that's 2036." Cam Davis continued, "They can't sell tickets from the dock for the boat, how is anybody going to police selling the tickets from the existing hotel facilities, that New Hampshire Hospitalities Holdings already owns, in controlling the amount of cars in town for that purpose. Are people going to be allowed to get on the boat from Meredith, who weren't already on the boat or are you just going to allow people to get off in Meredith and climb that hill to shop?" Rusty responded," We would expect them to get on the boat in Meredith and then get back off the boat in Meredith."

There's a purser on board and they will buy tickets on board, just like they do in Alton, Center Harbor and Wolfeboro where we do not have a ticket office and has been stipulated we can not have a ticket office on the dock. We can't load food on the dock, we can't operate the Mount when the flagship room at the Chase House is being operated, so those 52 parking places, I think you said 57, but I believe it's 52 parking places. One other major factor is we have a very expensive facility that we built in 1987 at Weirs Beach and part of our agreement with the City of Laconia for that thirty year lease and a twenty year renewal, was that Weirs Beach would be our home base, our main port. We can not break that agreement, we don't want to break that agreement, we are quite pleased with being based out of there and that's where our food facility is also." Cam Davis continued, " I just wanted to clarify that there's no way to control the influx of cars coming into this Town for people to get on that boat and we already have severe parking problems in the up town part of Meredith. A good share of those parking spaces on Main St., off Main St. are already full and they are also full of employees of Hampshire Hospitality Holdings. This is an on going discussion that I've had with the Selectmen, with the Town Manager for the last two years or more since I've been in business on Main St. it is problem if we don't make provisions to control this problem it is only going to get worse."

Pat Mack, (Skyview Circle)," I'm not in favor of the Mount coming into Meredith and I would like everyone to think of the fact that Alton, Wolfeboro and in Center Harbor where the Mount is docked, it's removed from town. In Alton it's down below the roadway and away from the main street. It's not right in your face. When it comes into Meredith it's going to be right at street level and it's going to block a good percentage of the view that we get right now." Chris Hayes, " Point of clarification on long term leases. As this article is written, it gives the Board permission to enter into a lease. Leases that have to come before the body for final approval are long term leases when your paying money, and obligating the Board or the Town to expend money over a long period of time. That does require coming back to the body to be voted on. The way this article is written does give the Board permission to enter into a long term agreement, without coming back again." Tom Sauriol, " I also have a request for a secret ballot. It seems to be generally a consensus by many that this will have a positive effect on our community in terms of tourism and boosting the economy. That may be true for a few select businesses close to the waterfront, it may in fact have a deciding negative impact on the majority of others, residents, and visitors alike."

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Consider safety. In the other ports the traffic moves at a much slower pace because of the nature of the area and speed limits are low. Route 3 in Meredith is a State highway and traffic is traveling at 30 plus miles per hour, it is very heavily traveled and is a through way, not just a destination. If there are not already safety concerns, why then did the Town paint crosswalks last year. Docking the boat at this location may also cause a disturbance to drivers, especially tourist, possibly causing an accident because someone is gawking at the boat instead of the road. Parking, already at a premium, Chase House has been designated, but it's going to be impossible to enforce this. If people see another parking space available they'll take it, it will be taking parking spaces from other tourists, taxpayers. Each time the boat comes into the bay, boat traffic and recreational water activities will be totally disrupted. Extending the dock will also create more open water in the bay during the winter, creating a safety hazard for ice fishermen, snowmobilers as well as making it difficult for the Rotary Ice Fishing Derby. In 1984 an article was voted that there would be no commercial activity allowed on or from Town owned property. Now we're talking of allowing a very profitable corporation to operate their excursion boat from our Town owned dock, free of charge, for at least thirty years.

When Towns people voted last year to allow Selectmen to negotiate with the Flagship Corporation, it was with the understanding that it would be with a one to three year contract, at which this time they would evaluate and re-negotiate. Last fall the Selectmen, with the aid of Town Manager, Peter Russell, came very close to entering into a perpetual agreement with no renewal ration to the Town for the dock. This seems to be a betrayal of their duty as our elected representatives. If this article is passed, we are giving Selectmen free rein in determining the terms of these negotiations. We're a world apart from the Meredith of fifty years ago, when the Mount last made Meredith its port of call. There is no comparison in the type of road and water traffic congestion that we experience today. We the tax payers are not getting to benefit from the venture, on the contrary, Flagship Corporation, Hampshire Hospitality, are the sole beneficiaries here. We can not be making special exceptions and allow Town property to be given away, simply because someone has deep pockets. Do we really need the Mount Washington here because they might bring in tourist dollars. This is a decision that will not only impact our future, but our children's future as well. It will be an overkill for our Town."

At this time Moderator Losee asked Mr. Sauriol if he was close to being finished, Mr. Sauriol said, "Yes." Mr. Sauriol continued, "I have presented you with facts, not speculations. Please consider the best interest of your Town, and don't give away what is rightfully yours. Meredith is a town consisting of many people, not just a select few. Please vote No on this article." Phyllis Hamblet then asked this question, "How many times a week is the boat coming into Meredith?" Mr. McLearn, "I don't have a specific answer, but I can say it will only be what we said last year, two or three times a week. To correct one or two of the impressions that were just left. Coming in one day a week, you come down the bay, pick up the people, you drive them back out, you bring them back, we're not coming in four times a day. Also another thought, we don't need to extend the existing dock. There's plenty of water there. We placed the cluster that's at the end of the dock, the precursor company, I believe in 1968. The Mount can basically come into that dock where it is. The only thought of the extension, is because the other docks are going to be extended. I also heard, free of charge. We've never said that we were not willing to pay for this dock. Both pay to build it, to maintain it, to put the aqua therms in, to put the electricity there for the pump out and part of the negotiations with the Town would be, what is a fair price to pay for it and we're willing to pay a fair price for that.

There was a Selectman's meeting, two or three meetings ago, I was not at that, where there was some discussion about what that price would be. That's not off the table at all." Stephen Walton, "When I heard the figure, three thousand cars an hour, that's a lot of cars. Those people are going somewhere. Each one of those pedestrian groups are going to have to cross the road which means that those cars are going to have to stop. I'm wondering how all that's going to be managed, sounds to me like a big can of worms. I'd like to speak about the water quality and the lake quality. I called the State Pollution control today and what they told me was that most of their water testing that they do, which by the way comes out real good, they do right out in the middle of the bay where it's about a hundred feet deep. Seems to me that in that specific spot there, it's all buffered by the water depth and the fact that the testings done way out in the middle. I don't know if there's any water quality data or any base line data that's been done off the Town dock area, where this is the most environmentally sensitive area we have here. I know there's milfoil in there already and it's not going to take a whole lot of backing that big boat up, stirring up the sediments in the bottom of that lake.

The State suggests that the turbulence action of an average motor boat propeller can go down twenty feet, so I'm wondering how deep the big boats prop is going to stir up. I would like to see some water quality assessment done by some scientific body, prior to us going ahead an engaging in a long term lease, whereby even if we did have a degeneration of the quality water in the bay, then we couldn't go back and fix it at that point because we'd be stuck with this lease. I think the three year lease would be the way to go. Some of the negative economic costs that this is going to do.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For example, I provide home health services and in the summer when I try to get around to peoples houses, it takes me about twenty minutes extra when I have to go through the light. So what that entails, is that someone might not be seen that day. That's a negative economic impact that I have to absorb and the Town has to absorb. I'm wondering how many truck deliveries, construction projects how many service related businesses that are time sensitive when you have to follow a schedule. These negative impacts need to be addressed, some people are going to make more money, and some people are going to make less. I think it would be better to leave the big boat in Center Harbor and in the Weirs. Some of those people will have to drive through Meredith and we'll get their business anyway." Marilyn Ambrose, "Who will be paying the taxes on the purposed dock? When are we going to do the extension of the Town docks that we voted for last year? To your knowledge, right now, are there any more proposed extensions of docks for Meredith Bay, before you or the Planning Board for commercial use?" Peter Russell addressed the questions, "We are looking at the actual extension, probably this fall, we're still looking at the time of year. Obviously, we have to do it the first thing in the spring or wait until after the summer season. So it will probably be this fall or next spring to extend our docks. After your vote earlier, we have about sixty thousand dollars available for the extensions and we have a pledge from the Rotary as well, so we're looking to move ahead. The extensions that we do, do not include this particular dock under discussion. We were proposing to extend two of our docks sixty feet and to build a new dock. So none of the money that we're purposing to spend would be on this particular dock.

If this particular dock is extended and the additions made to accommodate the Mount Washington, we've always looked at that being privately funded by them. The second question you had about other commercial uses in the bay. To my knowledge there's nothing before the Planning Board right now. We have the dock that was at Franken Sundae, it was approved last year by the State of New Hampshire for the rafting fellow, I don't know what will happen to that after the sale of Franken Sundae. There are a couple of dredge and fill applications for dock repair for private docks right now, not proposed for commercial use. The third question, taxes were an issue that we were having under negotiation. The dock is Town owned, but whether we negotiated payment in lieu of taxes. Wolfboro, for example has a landing fee that they charge for any boat. Those items were never really discussed because we got hung up on the term issue but I think that those discussions were some that we were going to have." Brad Sprague, "I was for the Mount to come in last year and I'm for the Mount to come in this year. I don't know where we could have the advertising that that boat brings in. That dock is not costing us anything to build. The Mount is part of New Hampshire and if we can include it in our brochures it will be a big asset for us. I hope we vote for it coming in, I thought we did last year, but I guess not. "Harold Noreen, "The Mount is unique, it is a class act. The traffic impact is minimum, as we heard from the Route 25 Task Force. The authority to grant a lease of greater than three years is a necessary consideration for the Mount to make the investment. Meredith is highly regarded as a town properly developed and esthetically developed, planned and presented. I move the question." Moderator Losee, "We have been asked to move the question and I have a second. So that's what we'll do." Selectman Whitcher then asked the Moderator to explain the yes and no vote. Point of order by Selectman Lessard, "We're going to be voting on moving the question first, that's to cut off debate. I think that if there are other people, because of the sensitive nature of this issue, I think we ought to give at least a few or more people an opportunity to finish up with some comments they may have. Just for an explanation here.

If we defeat the motion to move the question, we then can go back to finishing debating and discussing the issue. I think that's important because if we're going to approve this or turn this down it would at least be nice to give everyone the opportunity to do that. I know that I have some comments that I'd like to make with regards to this and they're actually questions....." Point of Order John Hodgdon, "The motion to cut off debate is non debatable, but it does require two-thirds vote to pass." Moderator Losee then took the vote to cut off debate, which takes a two-thirds majority to pass. Raising of the voter cards indicated to Moderator Losee that the motion carried and debate on this issue was over. Moderator Losee indicated that a petition, signed by five registered voters in the Town, had been received (There were two signed petitions received) for a secret ballot. He then directed the body to place either a yes or no in the ballot boxes for article 21. After everyone who wished to cast their ballot had done so, they were asked to take their seat and the ballot counters were then directed to count the ballots. While this was being done. Moderator Losee moved on to Article 22.

The secret ballot on Article 21.

YES – 185

NO – 97

THE ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE 22

"To see if the Town will vote to discontinue and relinquish all interests of the Town in the Town Road leading from Saddle Hill Road, northwesterly across Lots R-33-5, R-33-6, R-36-8 and R-36-9, pursuant to RSA 231:43.

Selectman Hughes:" I move that the Town will vote to discontinue and relinquish all interests of the Town in the Town Road leading from Saddle Hill Road, northwesterly across the Lots as stated pursuant to RSA 231:43. Mr. Lessard, " As my last official act as Selectman, I second the Motion." Discussion: Mr. Hughes," This Class VI road has been a problem for the abutting land owners for the last 10-15 years. We have requests and agreements from all the abutters to discontinue with the road. One of the land owners is the executor of an estate, he would be looking to subdivide about a seventy acre piece into two pieces. If there was any development in the future of that land out there, whoever came in with the development, would have to do whatever was necessary by the Planning Board, to bring that road up to a standard. But it has been a problem and the folks say let us have it as a private driveway, so I think it's time to do it."

DISCUSSION: John Hodgdon," Would this leave any of the lots, land locked?" Response from Selectman Hughes," No." Further discussion from Selectmen Whitcher, " A concern that I have is when you talk about discontinuing a Town road. Someone went through the hassles of securing easements to get this road to become a town road. One of my mottoes might be, if it's a Town road today, it should be a Town road tomorrow. Once a Town road, always a Town road." Mr. Hughes," Believe it or not, but that has always been my position that Christopher Whitcher has. But with time and knowledge some of us change, and we must agree to help people, who want something that is not going to cost the Town any money. If that road ever necessitates the being of a road, whoever is going to develop the land out there, will have to build it. In the meantime, it's a private way, or will be a private way." Robin Davis," What benefit will it be to give up that road?" Mr. Russell, " As it is right now, it is a Class VI highway. For any people to be building a house on that road, to receive a building permit, first of all they have to work and negotiate with the Board of Selectmen on improving the road.


Once that has been worked out, we refer to improvements on Class VI highways as bringing it to a Class V and a half. Then it is also requires that the building permit is registered with the Belknap County Registry of Deeds. It also puts a little bit of a cloud on the title when your trying to mortgage the property because there will be no winter maintenance on a Class VI highway. So this is actually a benefit to the land owners in that area so they can actually get a building permit, build a house, barn or whatever, knowing that it's going to be just like a private driveway, that they're going to have to maintain it themselves." Robin Davis," But it's just a benefit to the land owners out there, not to me or to the other tax payers, right?" Mr. Russell," There's really no benefit now. The road is not driveable, right now all the way through, and there's no interest in it. It currently divides three properties right in half and all the abutters really don't want people out there on their property either." Robin Davis brought up the issue of people hunting in that area who won't have access to the road anymore. Mr. Russell stated, " If the road divides all these properties and the land owners don't want people out on their properties, all they have to do is post it and you can't go across it anyway, so the road doesn't do you any good. As Mr. Hughes mentioned before, we've been dealing with this for about fifteen years. The last time we brought it forward to you, we had one of the landowners that was not agreeable. But that particular person approached us this year and said I'm agreeable now and I would like to go through with this and all the other abutters also agreed. There is an interest in that area to finally resolve this issue."

John Hodgdon, "I believe Peter misspoke slightly on that. If the landowners do post it and it's a Class VI road, they could post it for hunting, so there could be no hunting there. However, if it's undriveable, a person could walk it, or possibly ride a horse across it, as long as it's a Class VI road. I'm under the impression probably that nobody is doing that now, so there is not much reason to keep it open for that." Brad Sprague raised the question as to where that road is. Peter Russell answered by stating the location "it's out in the western section of Meredith, extreme section of Chemung, if you will, and there are three large tracts and one small tract on this property, on this road. This is a road that has not been used for a number of years, I don't know when we turned it into a Class VI highway, but I would guess it was close to twenty or thirty years ago." No further discussion. The Moderator then moved the question.

VOTE TAKEN - MOTION PASSED

The Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

A true copy attest:


Pauline L. Jones, Town Clerk

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Assessing Department

Lena Watson Bolton, Assessor

Menta Martel, Assessing Clerk

These are good economic times in Meredith. Over the past two years we have experienced growth and real estate appreciation. The growth in the tax base has been mostly from new construction.

ANNUAL INCREASE OF THE TAX BASE

1990 - 1996 about \$ 3 million per year	1997 \$ 4 million
1998 \$ 9.3 million	1999 \$11.5 million

Meredith is experiencing property appreciation. We can see this by the decrease in the assessment-sale ratio over the past three years. Since 1996 the assessment-sale ratio has gone from 101% to 97% in 1998. At this January 2000 writing the preliminary data for the 1999 tax year indicate the over all assessment-sale ratio will be approximately 94% of market value. The assessment-sale ratio shows the relationship between the assessed value and the sale price of a property. A ratio below 100% indicates on average properties are selling for more then the assessed value. When the ratio is more than 100%, the average selling price is less than the assessed value.

This summer I will be analyzing all properties that have sold over the past two years. From this analysis I will be making adjustments as necessary. Having the assessments at or near 100% of market value is necessary. First, the State of New Hampshire requires it. Second, the further the assessed values are from 100%, the greater the inequity between properties and unfairness between property taxes. And third, due to the new statewide funding for education, it is important to maintain assessments at or near 100% of market value.

While Meredith has been seeing changes so has the State. The Legislature voted to fund for an adequate public education by establishing a uniform education property tax and a utility property tax; increase the business profit and real estate transfer taxes. House Bill 117, known as the *Claremont* decision was enacted this fall. The Bill can be reviewed at the Town Hall and on the Internet at www.State.NH.US. Meredith property owners did not see change in their school tax rate as the results of the statewide education tax.

On a lighter note did you know Meredith has 5308 properties?

Property Type	Number	Percentage
Residential Improved	3061	58%
Residential Vacant	1119	21%
Residential Condo	406	8%
Mobile Homes	319	6%
Commercial/Industrial Improved	220	4%
Commercial/Industrial Vacant	56	1%
Exempt/Non-Taxable	127	2%

Conservation Commission

John Sherman, Chairman

Robert LeCount, Secretary

Members: Merritt Webb, Jack Robinson, Peter Miller, Phil Mercer

The highlight of 1999 was the addition of three active members: Jack Robinson, Peter Miller and Phil Mercer. Because of this we were able to set up a committee structure—one for dredge and fill applications, docks, wetlands, etc., of which we handle 70-80 per year. There is also a committee for open space – Meredith has five forests and seven easements totaling 865 acres. Most were visited and boundaries walked in 1999. As called for in the Commission's management plan, in the fall we started a selective harvest of approximately 100 acres in the Hamlin Town Forest located on the west side of Lake Wicwas. A tip of the hat to our only long-term member, Merritt Webb for remarking the boundaries of this 305-acre town forest.

Some goals for the year 2000 include long-term planning, developing trails at the Hamlin Town Forest, test the water quality in Meredith Bay and focus on Meredith's three prime wetlands – Page Brook, Hawkins Brook and Hatch Brook. We always have a need for you to be involved on the Commission as a member or a resource to call on for a specific project or area of interest to you. Please support the warrant article the Commission has submitted for Town Meeting asking for State support for funding of open space.

Thanks to everyone in the Town Office. Your help and support is most appreciated. Finally, let's all be kind to our environment, it's the only one we will ever have to pass on to future generations.

Finance Department

Brenda L. Vittner, MBA, Finance Director

Carrie Compton, Town Accountant

Linda J. LaBraney, Finance Clerk

1999 was a year for change within the Finance Department. The Town has a new Finance Director and Town Accountant. The Finance Staff has worked diligently to continue upgrading procedures to remain effective and efficient. The purchase of a bursting and stuffing machine has increased the efficiency of mailing correspondence for the Town. With the advent of House Bill 999 the Finance Staff has been very busy working with the State Education Funding Tax and all of the implications.

I wish to express my thanks to the Carrie Compton and Linda Labraney for working with the changes in the Finance Department and to all Town employees for their assistance, support and cooperation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Fire Department

Charles G. Palm, Fire Chief

As 1999 comes to a close, we have an opportunity to inventory the many accomplishments of the Department and reflect on the possibilities of what the future has in store. Part of this assessment process includes the matching of our Department's resources with both the current and anticipated needs of the community that we serve. As can be seen when reviewing the following schedule, the number and nature of our calls show trends as to what might lie ahead:

	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
Fire Related (structure, vehicle and brush)	8.4%	15.1%	12.5%
Mutual Aid (assisting neighboring towns)	16.3	13.9	14.3
Rescue (motor vehicle accidents, medical)	30.4	28.0	26.4
Public Assist (alarm activations, etc.)	44.9	43.0	46.8
Total number of calls	276	259	259

The big decrease in "Fire Related" calls is in the area of chimney fires; hopefully this is the result of better maintenance and regular cleaning, as this is perhaps the best line of defense in preventing this type of fire. Also along this line, the Fire Department is available to inspect installations of chimneys and related appliances, such as woodstoves. In the area of "Mutual Aid" calls, there has been an increase this year, probably for the same reason that we ask neighboring towns to come and assist us; if the initial assessment appears to indicate that the call may result in approaching the limits of the local department, then we put out the call for assistance. It is always better to return the extra help than to be in a position of needing the help and not having it.

The one category where we have seen a consistent upward trend is "Rescue" calls; almost exclusively in the area of motor vehicle accidents, mostly involving juvenile drivers and in many cases speed. Alcohol and the lack of attention to good driving habits continue to play an important role in the cause of such accidents.

How are we meeting the demands being placed upon us as a volunteer organization? The first way is through recruiting new members; secondly, by providing both the new and existing members with the opportunity to learn how to handle the variety of situations to which we are asked to respond. And lastly, equipping these individuals with up-to-date equipment so that they can get the job done quickly and SAFELY.

During the past year, to assist in the recruiting effort, we have emphasized the development of the local fire Explorer Post where individuals 15 years of age and over are learning the various aspects of the fire service, with the hope that they will join the Department when they become of age. We are truly proud of the dedication reflective in this level of response.

Fire Department continued...

With respect to training, three of our newest members became State Certified, after attending classes at the State Fire Academy in Concord two nights a week and many weekends for a period of over five months. In addition, a large percentage of our members have taken a variety of courses such as Hazardous Materials Operations, Fire Cause and Determination, Officer Leadership, in addition to regular monthly training. In the area of equipment, over the past two years we have been able to update the fire fighters' turnout gear in order to give them an extra element of safety. This year a committee was established to determine the best type of fire apparatus to obtain, considering the trend toward more rescues and in particular an increase in motor vehicle accidents. As a result of a lot of work by this committee, specifications were developed for a "Pumper/Rescue", which has been included in this year's town budget. Currently, for a rescue call we need to run two pieces of equipment, a pumper or fire engine and a rescue truck. With the new "Pumper/Rescue" only one vehicle will need to respond. The truck that this will replace is a 34-year-old, 1966 pumper. Our present rescue truck will be used in the future on a limited basis, primarily for the transport of personnel and equipment to calls such as to water rescues, ice rescues, etc.

Recognition should be given to both the Meredith Rotary and Lions Clubs for their generous financial support. This year the Rotary provided the funding to equip a Hazardous Materials response truck that is now in service and is available to all 35 cities and towns in our mutual aid area. A role that the Department is responsible for is education, both at the school level and within the general community. In this connection the Lions Club donated funds that will be used to acquire educational materials to assist us in this effort. If you are a member of an organization and would like to put on some type of fire related safety program, such as the use of a home fire extinguisher, please give us a call.

As residents of the Town, we have to keep in mind that our Department members are volunteers and when the emergency call comes in, they are leaving their families, their jobs and the comfort of their homes and we want them to be able to do their job and be able to return both quickly and most importantly safely. To this end a big "Thank you" is due to not only the Department members, but also their families and employers who are instrumental in making it all work and to the residents of the Town of Meredith for your continued support.

In closing, I would like to leave you with a few thoughts. First, "Is your house properly numbered so that it is readily and easily visible from the street?" Secondly, when was the last time you checked your smoke detector? Thirdly, do you have a Carbon Monoxide detector located in the living area of your home? And, lastly, do you have a working fire extinguisher, located in a visible spot? Have a safe and happy 2000.

Forest Fire Warden

Charles G. Palm, Warden

Responses to uncontrolled outdoor burning in the Meredith area were down slightly, unlike what the rest of the State experienced. Considering the relatively dry year, combined with many days with strong winds and a heavy fire load resulting from the remains of the ice storm damage of 1998, we were very fortunate, as the potential was present for major fires to occur. Statewide there were over 1,300 outdoor fires reported, (compared to approximately 800 fires in 1998) such fires resulting in the burning of approximately 452 acres and damage to 36 structures, many of which were private homes and summer cottages. The largest single cause, or 27% of these fires, continues to be the result of improper debris burning, followed by the improper disposal of smoking material which resulted in about 15% of the 1,300 fires.

Locally and Statewide, public education and early detection are two areas that continue to be major factors in keeping the resulting destruction caused by these fires at low levels. In addition, strenuous enforcement of the outdoor burning statutes by the State's 2,400 Fire Wardens and Deputies played a major role.

Let us spend a few minutes and review the basics of what you can do to help reduce uncontrolled outdoor fires, specifically the burning of debris.

First ask yourself:

"Is this a good day to burn?" – dry, windy conditions are the worst conditions.

"Do I have the capability of extinguishing the fire if it either gets out of control or if the weather conditions change?" – clear an area around the debris; burn in the open (not under trees and low lying branches); have a good source of water available and a shovel and rake; be prepared to stay with the fire until it is completely extinguished; and, do you have a permit? With respect to permits, you need a permit to kindle **ANY** outdoor fire, the **ONLY** exception is when there is adequate snow cover – over 800 permits were issued in Meredith this past year.

"Who can get a permit?" Permits must be obtained by the landowner or the landowner's representative, with the **written** permission of the landowner; also the signer of the permit must be at least 18 years of age. To assist the residents of Meredith, we have installed "Smokey the Bear" signs in front of both fire stations; these signs will indicate what the estimated fire danger is for the community, ranging from "Low" to "Extreme". When one of these messages are not displayed, it generally indicates that a permit is **NOT** required, although to avoid a response from the Fire Department, please call the Fire Station at 279-6061 and let us know that you will be burning.

Forest Fire Warden continued...

“Where can I get a permit?” – call the Fire Station or visit the Town Office, Meredith Center Store or Y-Landing or contact one of the Assistant Fire Chiefs.

“Does a permit cost anything?” – No; however, it can be very costly for starting an outdoor fire without having a valid permit in hand.

Now that I have a permit:

“Can I burn anything, anytime?” – You can only burn between 5:00 PM and 9:00 AM (this is when the winds are generally lowest and there is the most moisture present), or if it is significantly raining. Also, only the burning of brush (under 5 inches in diameter) and untreated wood is allowed.

“What if I want to have a small campfire several times throughout the summer – do I need to get a permit every time?” No, the maximum time a permit is issued is three days; however, “Seasonal” permits are available upon request.

Hopefully, the above information answers some of your questions about outside burning and to use Smokey the Bear’s old saying – **“Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires”**. Please have a safe 2000!

General Assistance

Brenda L. Vittner, General Assistance Director
Linda J. LaBraney, General Assistance Clerk

In 1999 the Town assisted fifty-one clients living in the Town of Meredith. Typically assistance is granted for rent, heat, electric, food and other necessities of life. I would like to thank the Community Action Program, local Churches, local Businesses, Service Organizations and residents who have joined with the Town in assisting people in need.

Also, available is the New Hampshire HELP LINE # 1-800-852-3388, a 24 hour telephone service which provides:

- Assistance in locating emergency shelter
- Help for families facing eviction
- Assistance for unemployed people
- Assistance in locating basic needs such as food, housing, utilities, etc.
- Crisis aid involving suicide, child or adult abuse, domestic violence
- Referrals to appropriate agencies for help in solving any problem

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Meredith Public Library

Lydia M. Torr, Library Director

Marilyn E. Rushton, Assistant Director

A superb job by staff Julia Hodges and Susan Brackett was demonstrated in our automation department. Many long hours of meetings ensued and Internet was installed in February. It was exciting to be in the complete age of automation offering our patrons full services in these areas. We also thank you for your patience during our "down time", while upholding our ongoing pledge to update software and equipment to offer the latest and best for our public. Thank you to trustee, Delphine Clough for her many volunteer hours training patrons on the Internet.

A highlight of the year was the making of a video under the direction of Dr. Carol O'Neil, film and TV production professor at Emerson College in Boston. Dr. O'Neil will use the video as an instructional tool in her classroom. The Winnepesaukee Quest was used as a script encompassing the past, present, and future of the library. Six fourth grade students, one trustee, pre-school children, parents and staff were involved with making the video. A lot of hard work and fun created the magic of production. Stars were born for a full twelve minutes. Dr. O'Neill approached the Meredith Library, out of all the other libraries in the state, because of its open, bright interior; architecture and user-friendly atmosphere.

In January, a veteran employee, Nancy Sherman resigned because of health. A dedicated, conscientious, professional staff member, Nancy brought a tremendous enthusiasm to her job and tackled her many tasks with aplomb. We thank her for all her years of faithful service. Nancy is greatly missed by staff and patrons alike.

As we approach the millennium, our goals 2000 list for needs and improvements conveys once again our commitment to make available the most complete, up-to-date services and knowledge for you, our patrons. As a viable, educational pulse of the community, we will continue to offer to you the most for your tax dollar.

Annual Circulation		Acquisitions	
Audio Visual Materials	21,308	Audio Visuals	317
Books	68,181	Books	2,353
Periodicals	2,905	Gifts	523
Costumes	879	Lost/Discarded	2,535
Interlibrary Loans	1,403		
Reference Questions Answered	2,344		
Registered Borrowers	4,794		
Total Circulation	94,676	Total Inventory	31,864

Planning & Zoning Department

John C. Edgar, AICP, Town Planner

John W. Dever, Jr., Code Enforcement Officer

Mary Lee Harvey, Clerk

Planning Board Application Summary - 1999

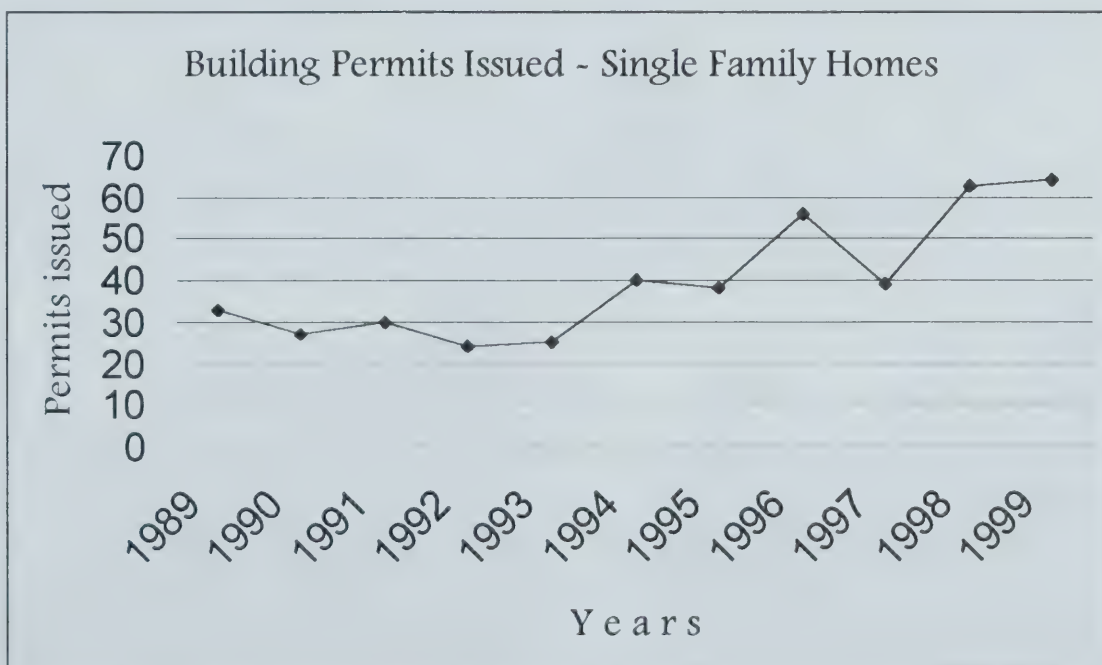
Comm./Indus. Site Plan Approvals	15	Pre-Application Consultations	7
Home Occupation Site Plan Approvals	3	Scenic Road Tree Cutting Approvals	0
Subdivision Approvals	5	Application Withdrawals	0
Boundary Line Adjustment Approvals	8	Revocation and/or Disapproval	0

Zoning Board Summary - 1999

Variance Applications	19	Special Exceptions Granted	55
Variances Granted	17	Special Exceptions Denied	2
Variances Denied	2	Administrative Decision Appeal	0
Applications Withdrawn	2	Rehearing Requests Granted	4
Special Exception Applications	57		

Building Permit Activity - 1999

New Single-Family Homes	64	Garages/Storage Buildings	43
Mobile Homes	11	Renovations & Repairs	117
Demolition	19	Driveways	40
Fences	7	Docks/Dock Repairs	18
Swimming Pools	1	Other Structures/Renovations	34



GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Police Department

John P. Curran, Police Chief

As we close out the 20th century, all of us at the Meredith Police Department are looking forward to better serving the Meredith community in the upcoming millennium.

Our primary goal, as with all law enforcement agencies, is to serve and protect the well being of our citizens. As we are constantly being bombarded by new and/or changing laws within the legal system, our officers and staff vigilantly undertake training and management courses to stay ahead of the curve. And although this may sound like old news, we need the community to work with us, their fellow citizens and neighbors to solve problems.

Lacking an Animal Control Officer for 1999, the Police Department took on the role through its duty officers. As a result, some responses may have seemed delayed to the public, but officers responded as speedily as possible. The list of animal complaints ranged greatly from: Dog complaints (including unlicensed, barking, loose, missing & found) 432, Animal Cruelty complaints 19, Livestock complaints (including missing & found or loose) 23, Wildlife complaints (including nuisances, endangering, injured, reportable to Fish & Game) 57, Animals destroyed (due to sickness or injury) 3, Cat complaints (including missing or found) 44, and reported Dog Bites 18, and trips to the NH Humane Society totaled 66. In all, a total of 596 calls for service were made in reference to animals. Please make it a point to properly care for, handle, and license all domesticated pets and/or livestock.

In reflection, I would like to thank Lt. Paul Dillon for his twenty-two year service to the Town of Meredith. Throughout his tenure, January 11, 1977-February 24, 1999, Lt. Dillon represented this Department well, acting as Detective and Evidence Officer. And we credit him with bringing the Meredith Police Department into the "Computer Age". We wish him all the best.

As always, I would like to thank all the members of the Meredith Police Department for their proficiency, sacrifice and dedication to the community. An officer's job is not always an easy one and they approach it with professionalism and integrity twenty-four hours a day.

Police Statistics

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>
Calls for service	23,634	25,189	27,162	30,428	28,948
Warnings / Checkups	1,253	1,481	1,593	2,334	2,653
Summonses	535	304	402	620	395
Arrests	276	244	301	327	279

Public Works Departments

Mike Faller, Public Works Director

Bruce MacBrien, Jr., Assistant Public Works Director

Monica Bennett, Public Works Clerk

1999 started out very busy for Public Works. There are now four departments under Public Works: Highway, Solid Waste, Buildings & Grounds and Cemeteries. This was done to promote better teamwork among the public works crews and to be able to work more efficiently by sharing equipment and personnel. This has helped increase productivity and reduced downtime.

The Highway Department achieved its goals for 1999 with all construction and maintenance projects completed, including the restoration of the historic Waukegan Canal. This department continues to work hard and strives to deliver timely and efficient service to our residents.

Solid Waste continues our recycling efforts. We are currently running at approximately 35%, which is great compared to the state average of 15%. Due to radical price reductions in recyclables, it has been difficult to find markets for these materials. Our hope is that the market will turn around soon.

The Buildings and Grounds crew had an extremely busy year. The crew was short handed this summer, but did a great job. They take great pride in keeping our grounds in good shape. The parks and waterfront were kept well-groomed and looking great all year.

Our Cemeteries Department lost a long time veteran, Kenneth Sargent, who retired at the end of 1999 after 45 years of service. We will all miss Ken and his vast knowledge. We wish him well in his future endeavors. The Sexton position will be filled this spring.

The New Year brought no problems with Y2k and we didn't skip a beat. The Year 2000 will be a busy one for all of us. As Director of Public Works, and on behalf of all our crews, we would like to thank all of our Meredith residents for their patience and support throughout the past year. We hope the Millennium treats everyone well.

Featured below are before and after shots of the Waukegan Canal.



GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Recreation Department

Cheryl A. Saltzberg, Recreation Director

The Parks and Recreation Department had another successful and busy year with all of the programs offered to the residents of Meredith. The summer programs continue to be well attended, with over 200 youth in the summer playground program, and 50 enrolled in tennis lessons. The local seniors enjoyed trips throughout New Hampshire, Maine, and Massachusetts and they are looking forward to the ones planned for the year 2000. The summer concerts continue to be well attended, perhaps due to the variety of the music that is offered. This past August, we were fortunate enough to have the NH Shakespeare Festival perform at Hesky Park.

At the end of 1999, I resigned as Recreation Director to move to Southern New Hampshire. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the residents of Meredith, fellow Department Heads, and Town Employees for all of the support over the years. This is a unique community and I encourage all of you to become involved in it! Best wishes to you all.

Nick Gosling, an Eagle Scout worked with his Troop 55 members on this project at the Waukewan Highlands Community Park. He designed and made a picnic area, bulletin board, and fishing stations.



Tax Collector

Valerie Fogg, Deputy Tax Collector

The Town has again experienced the benefit of a stable economy. 93.8% of the 1999 municipal property taxes were collected as of December 31, 1999. If property owners are delinquent in their tax payments, they should contact Valerie (Vikki) Fogg, to make payment arrangements. Partial payments towards delinquent taxes reduce the amount of interest due and the burden to the taxpayer.

Town Clerk Department

Pauline L. Jones, Town Clerk

Sheila Vachon, Deputy Town Clerk

The Town Clerk Department continues to be of service to the community, though many changes were implemented in 1999 mandated through State Legislation. The licensing of dogs is a state mandated law, RSA 466:1. Be a responsible pet owner and license your pet as soon as they receive their rabies inoculation. Please call or drop by the office if we can be of assistance. Thank you for your support.

The 1999 Town Clerk Department Collections were as follows:

Auto Registrations (9042)	909,351.00
Dogs (1089)	7,533.00
Miscellaneous Total:	<u>13,190.17</u>
Total	\$930,074.17

Miscellaneous includes: UCC Filings, Marriage Licenses, Vital Record Copies, Aquatherm Permits, Dredge & Fill Permits, Mailings, Notary/Justice Fees.

Water & Sewer Departments

Robert Hill, Superintendent

Staff: Daniel Cutting, Charles Wade & Joseph Levasseur

1999 was a very productive year for the Water and Sewer Departments. The Pleasant Street Water Project greatly improved water quality and fire protection. The Avery Street and Canal Street water main loop to eliminate two dead end lines was completed. A new water main was constructed to Enterprise Court for water service, fire protection, and three new hydrants were added throughout the system.

The first annual Consumer Confidence Report was sent out to all water users, and shall continue each year. The Water Department has met or exceeded All State and EPA requirements for water quality; a difficult feat that I am very proud of was accomplished by an excellent staff and town support.

Numerous services and meters were rebuilt or replaced and will continue as part of an ongoing maintenance program.

In cooperation with Public Works Projects, 28 sewer manholes on 4 roads were rebuilt or raised in conjunction with road repaving. A gravity sewer line was constructed at the water plant to eliminate two sewer pumps in order to cut down on maintenance and electrical costs.

Staff and myself would like to thank you for allowing us to serve you and are looking forward to a prosperous 2000.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

American Red Cross

Thomas Drouin, Chapter Chairman

When the need arises, the American Red Cross is ready to serve. The Greater White Mountain Chapter responds when fires, ice storms or other disasters strike the residents of your community. The mission of the Red Cross is to help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. Responding to emergencies includes providing disaster relief services, and Red Cross volunteers are trained to coordinate and provide for the basic human needs of disaster victims, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We appreciate the support from the Town of Meredith.

Disaster Services —This direct emergency assistance includes vouchers for food, clothing, medicine, emergency shelter, emergency home repairs, and basic household necessities; thorough damage assessments and building repair estimates; and emergency mental health counseling. In addition, Red Cross disaster volunteers work as the liaison between and among other non-profit human service organizations on behalf of disaster victims to coordinate other identified needs such as fuel assistance, emergency care for pets, donations of needed goods and services, pre-disaster needs, etc. All direct assistance from the Red Cross is based on verified, disaster-caused needs.

Armed Forces Emergency Services – The Red Cross also serves as the official communication link between active members of the military and their families, relaying urgent messages regarding birth, death, and serious illness. This service is also provided 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, around the world, without the benefit of any federal or state government funding.

Community Health and Hospice

Margaret Franckhauser, ARNP, MS, MPH, Executive Director

Community Health & Hospice is a non-profit home and community health agency based in Laconia which works with Meredith Public Health Nursing to supplement health care services to area residents. We are pleased to continue to provide professional health services to Meredith Residents.

Registered Nurse Home Visits – 199, Physical/Occupational/Speech Therapy Visits –128
Home Health Aid Personal Care Visits – 67, Young Family Support Service Visits –24
Homemaker Chore Service Visits –697, Hospice Visits by nurses, counselors, aides –220
Adult In-Home Support (for those who otherwise would be in the nursing home –204

In summary, a Total of 1539 home visits were made to Meredith residents to provide in home care. Additionally, Meredith residents participated in the Shots for Tots vaccine program and the Alzheimer's respite and support programs.

Emergency Management Agency

Steven R. Bennett, Director

1999 was a very productive year for Emergency Management. Care and consideration was given to research and preparation for any potential Y2K problems that might arise. Plans were laid out should any Y2K incidents develop.

Emergency response personnel trained throughout the year, identifying potential problems and devising solutions for them. Potential problem areas in the community were targeted by all Town Departments and Standard Operating Procedures were developed and tested to be sure any response would be effective and affect the community in a positive manner.

The State of NH Emergency Management Agency worked closely with all local agencies to keep us informed and to provide any knowledge or assistance we might require. Their constant updates saved us many hours of labor and research. With no major storms and no Y2K problems, New Year's Eve came and went without incident or problems.

As Director of Emergency Management I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the Town Employees and Citizens of the Town of Meredith. Their support, efforts and willingness to make a positive difference in our community is what makes Meredith such a fine place to live and work.

Inter-Lakes Daycare Center and Nursery School

Connie Pelletier, Director

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to once again thank the Town of Meredith for their continued financial support to our agency for residents of Meredith. We greatly appreciate your commitment to our Agency. Inter-Lakes Day Care Center and Nursery School is a private, non-profit licensed, tax exempt community child care agency incorporated in October 1971, and governed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

Our Center is open year round in two sites from 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM. The Agency provides a comprehensive program of family support for working parents through our infant, toddler, preschool, and school age developmentally appropriate curriculum for children six weeks through twelve years old. Services include full and part-time child care, morning preschool programs, school based extended day programs, school vacation day camp programs, summer day camp programs, USDA school lunch program for hot meals and snacks, transportation for kindergarten, and the Inter-Lakes Family Daycare Nutrition Program sponsorship. Through the State of New Hampshire under Title XX, for those who are eligible, we are able to provide sliding fee scale tuition based on income and family size. Eligibility is for employment, training, and pursuit of degrees or certificate programs, job search, or temporary disability.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

KidWorks Learning Center

Karen Stetson, Executive Director

Kidworks Learning Center is a state licensed, non-profit childcare provider offering Meredith-area children (6 weeks to 12 years) a stimulating environment to learn and grow. With emphasis on “learning through play” the Center provides a wide range of activities and options that enable each child to progress at his or her own pace in the four major areas of development: emotional, intellectual, social and physical.

Programs offered at Kidworks include Infant & Toddler, Preschool, Kindergarten, Before & After School Care and a Summer Enrichment Camp.

The Center participates in the State of NH Title XX program offering financial assistance to low-income families. Through the Child & Adult Food Program, sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture the center provides a nutritious breakfast, snacks and lunch daily.

Kidworks is committed to providing quality childcare for local families that is accessible and affordable.

On behalf of the staff, families and the Board of Directors of Kidworks Learning Center a sincere thank you is extended to the Town of Meredith for their support.

Lakes Region Community Services Council

Stephen C. Maguire, Assistant Executive Director

Throughout the past year, Lakes Region Community Services Council has continued to serve all Meredith residents who have a developmental disability. Services such as: residential, vocational, family support and transportation, have long become an inherent part of the lives of these Meredith residents.

Our transportation system, "Greater Laconia Transit Agency" (GLTA), serves two specific functions in our region. One provides for the specialized transportation needs of those town residents who have a developmental disability, while the other serves the general public. For the former, these needs involve a daily round trip service between home and a variety of vocational programs. The general public on the other hand, can access GLTA's services along specified routes, or by charter.

Funding from the Town has been, and will continue to be earmarked to support this transportation system.

Lakes Region Association

Amy L. Landers, Executive Director

The Lakes Region Association is a non-profit tourism marketing organization that promotes the Lakes Region out-of-state and internationally.

The association is located on Route 104 in New Hampton where we operate a Visitor Information Center. The information center is open 7 days a week to greet visitors to the region and provide information on lodging, dining, attractions, and outdoor recreation such as hiking, biking, camping, and much, more. White Mountain National Forest representatives are on hand to assist visitors and sell parking permits for the forest.

The association is printing its annual publications the Lakes Region “Where to Guide” and Lakes Region Map and Guide. We are printing 250,000 Where to Guides and 600,000 map and guides. This is the only detailed regional map. The publications will be ready by the beginning of March.

The association promotes the Lakes Region through our web site: lakesregion.org. The web site includes lodging, dining, attractions, golfing, hiking, boating, and much more to plan a vacation. We also maintain an extensive calendar of events for the entire region.

For more information contact us at (603) 744-8664.

Lakes Region Family Service Association

Nicole E. Maher, Executive Director

Lakes Region Family Service greatly appreciates Meredith’s support of our services. With two Inter-Lakes School District employees and four Meredith residents on our Board, we feel well informed of your community’s needs. In 1999, we directly served the children in Meredith through our “Social Skills” and “Children in Transition” groups offered at Inter-Lakes Elementary School. Our Supervised Visitation program (began in late 1997) has met the needs of Meredith families.

We are also offering Teen Anger Management at the Interlakes Middle School and initial steps have been taken to begin a Peer Mediation program there as well. Parent/Child mediations are offered at no charge. Please call Lakes Region Family Service for a handy program reference guide at (603) 524-5835.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Lakes Region Planning Commission

Kimon Koulet, Executive Director

The Lakes Region Planning Commission is a voluntary, non-profit association of local governments formed for the purpose of bringing area municipalities together. By associating and pooling resources, local governments have access to a highly trained professional staff for a wide variety of expertise in land use and transportation planning, master planning, environmental planning, historic preservation, capital improvement programming, economic and community development, housing, fiscal and environmental impact analysis, geographic information systems, household hazardous waste collections, engineering and site plan review. Circuit rider planning and public facilitation services are also available from the Commission.

Your support helps the LRPC maintain a regional presence working on behalf of all local governments in the Lakes Region. Over the past year the LRPC:

- Presented a public workshop for local land use boards and the public on the application of biosolids.
- Convened a public workshop on conservation open-space zoning for planning board members and others interested in conserving the amount of open space in their communities.
- Represented the region on the NH Heritage Trail Advisory Committee.
- Co-hosted and organized three public Municipal Law Lectures where practicing attorneys provide a legal perspective on local planning, zoning and other issues.
- Completed and approved the 1997 Lakes Region Transportation Improvement Plan which prioritized local transportation projects. Submitted the TIP to the NH Department of Transportation for consideration in the State Transportation Improvement Program, as required under State Statute.
- Continued to update the digital regional land use map using geographic information system technology.
- Served as the Lakes Region's data clearinghouse for US Census, demographic and statistical data. These data are available to community officials and the public.
- As part of the NH Rivers Management and Protection Program, the LRPC staffed the Pemigewasset River Advisory Committee.
- Developed an informational brochure on Access Management techniques that municipalities can use to improve vehicle movement and safety along our roadways.

We look forward to serving Meredith in the future. Feel free to contact us at 279-8171 whenever we can be of assistance.

Meredith Chamber of Commerce

Susan Cerutti, Executive Director

The Meredith Area Chamber of Commerce consists of over three hundred businesses who are organized to advance and promote the commercial, industrial, service, professional, tourism, and retail interests of Meredith and its trade area. While many of the activities of the Chamber are tourist related, all segments of the business community make up the membership. This past year the Chamber office located at 272 Daniel Webster Highway was open during the winter and the Information Center was open daily from May through October. Visitors to the Center found a wide array of promotional literature. Staffing the Center in 1999 were Doris Stone, Judy Manning, Jean Greenlaw, Molly Landrigan and Ruth McHugh.

Chamber sponsored events included the Lakes Region Fine Arts and Crafts Festival, the Fourth of July Fireworks, Midnight Madness Sale, Christmas Open House, the Daffodil Day Gala, The Community Yard Sale, and the Awards Ceremony at the Annual Meeting. Regular Business After Hours and Breakfast Forums were held and the Antiquing Guide, The Marine Services Guide, the Business Passport Program, the Around the Town Map, and the Service Guide were all continued.

The Chamber greatly appreciates the support of the community for its many activities and is especially appreciative of the cooperation and assistance received from the various departments of the Town in carrying out its many projects.

Meredith Community Action Program

Prudence Tylenda, Area Director

The Meredith Community Action Program is a local, community based, nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing the needs of the elderly and low income residents in the Town of Meredith.

During the past year, we have provided \$287,544 in services to Meredith residents. As you are aware, our major concern has always been, and will continue to be, the delivery of needed services to the elderly, handicapped and low-income residents of the community. Some of the services we provide are administration of the Fuel Assistance Program, the Women, Infants and Children Program, congregate meals at the Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, emergency food pantry, family planning and transportation. For more information, please contact 279-4096.

We wish to thank the Town of Meredith for it's continued support of CAP.

SUPPORTED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Meredith Historical Society

Dawn Dever, President

With the continued support of the Town of Meredith, we were able to continue to open the Main Street Museum to the public four days a week during the summer. With the help of several volunteers, the Farm Museum is open two days a week in the summer months. We continue to have monthly programs from April to November that are also open to the public.

Interaction with the Inter-Lakes Elementary School began in the fall. We hope that we will be able to assist them with our collection of the history of Meredith. Our Farm Director, Jim Belcher, put together a "Travelling Farm Museum" that can be used by the schools.

Maintenance on the Main Street building this year included replacing windows on the third floor with new energy-efficient windows and rebuilding the chimney. New glass was installed in the tops of some of the display cases on the first floor.

Throughout the year, we receive and answer requests for information about the history of our community. The year 2000 marks the 50th anniversary of the Meredith Historical Society and our 5th year in the Main Street building. We are very thankful to the Town of Meredith for their support.

Meredith Public Health Nursing Association

June A. Plummer, RN, Executive Director/Supervisor

Meredith Public Health Nursing Association is a Medicare, Medicaid, BC/BS approved and State Licensed non-profit agency that provides Skilled Nursing, Psychiatric Nursing and Counseling, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Home Health Aides and Homemaker Service to the residents of Meredith and Center Harbor.

Flu clinics were held in late October and early November. The total number of immunizations administered were 309. Services in Meredith during 1999 include:

2240 RN Home visits	808 Office visits	262 Weekend/Evenings visits
238 Physical Therapy	27 Occupational Therapy	2494 C.N.A. Home visits

Memorial gifts were received in memory of Ada Batchelder, Fay Beede, Martin Bernard, Othelia Bernard, Glenna Bonner, Lorriane Bourque, Freeman Brooks, June S. Brown, Albert Chandler, John Demar, Michael Dickey, Harry Gleason, Helene Gleason, R.N., Lorraine Hanson, John C Hughes Sr, Virginia Hyne, Hortense Isabelle, Clarence R. Jones, Walter Lance, Ethelyn Maloney, Edward R. Moulton, Leroy Moulton, Richard Nevens, William F. Richards Sr., Blanche Riley, Jeanette Ritzenthaler, Ralph Samaha, Louise Steele, Donald Stewart, Lawrence Swain, Howard Thompson, Isabelle Thornton, Nellie Way, Robert Weeks, and Dorothy Wilkins.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Town of Meredith and our many volunteers for the continued strong support to our agency.

New Beginnings

Kathy Keller, Director

On behalf of New Beginnings A Women's Crisis Center and those we serve, I would like to thank the Town of Meredith for its continued support. The \$1000.00 allocation in 1999 assisted us in providing emergency services, advocacy and support to those whose lives have been affected by domestic and sexual violence.

New Beginnings offers 24-Hour Crisis Line. We operate a full time shelter for women and children and have safe homes for male victims; provide support and advocacy at courts, hospitals, police stations, and social service agencies. New Beginnings offers peer support groups for those affected by domestic or sexual violence, assists with needs assessments, case management and housing options; and does community outreach and education programs for youth, teens and adults. All services are confidential and are provided free of charge.

We greatly appreciate the support of the Meredith community. We are dedicated to human service, social responsibility and fiscal accountability. Although, New Beginnings represents a finite portion of the Meredith Town Budget the returns are immeasurable. We welcome your participation in our efforts to insure a world of safety for our children and ourselves. Volunteers are an integral part of the work done by our agency. In 1998 there were 12,338 hours of service provided by volunteers. They are always needed and the opportunity to serve is fulfilling. Thank you for joining us to *make a difference*.

New Hampshire Humane Society

Claudia Abdinoor, Executive Director

The New Hampshire Humane Society (NHHS) provides numerous services including companion animals to the residents of the Town of Meredith. Strays are safely housed for 7 days when they become available for adoption to the public. NHHS takes in owner-relinquished pets by appointment and matches the animal with the best adoptive home. We offer the residents of your town an alternative to releasing their animal to the streets when they can no longer care for them. Quarantine facilities are made available to the Town as well as the services of our animal cruelty investigator. Educational programs are offered to town schools and civic organizations. If you are interested in any of the programs, please call the administrative office at 524-8236 or the shelter at 524-3252.

The total number of animals brought to the NHHS from your Town during 1999:

<u>Stray Animals from:</u>	<u>Town of Meredith</u>	<u>Owner surrendered animals</u>
Dogs & Puppies:	43	21
Cats & Kittens:	22	17
Other animals:	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>
Total received:	66	47
Total number of all animals received:		113

COMMUNITY PLANNING

Report of the Planning Board

Robert C. Flanders, Chairman

Work on the Community Plan continues. In the spring of 1999, we held our third and final public forum entitled "Implementing the Vision". Our five volunteer subcommittees presented their recommendations and received input from the public and their fellow subcommittees. The subcommittee reports are currently being used as the foundation for the actual Community Plan document. We expect the draft plan will be available for review this spring. The Planning Board will then hold a formal public hearing to consider its adoption.

In the fall of 1999 the Town of Meredith submitted an application to the NH Scenic and Cultural Byways Council nominating portions of Routes 3 and 25 to be designated as part of a regional byway circumnavigating around Lake Winnepesaukee. The nomination has been accepted by the Council leading to the scheduling of a public hearing to be held by the Board of Selectmen for February 7, 2000. We look forward to formal designation in 2000 particularly in light of the emphasis that our Community Plan subcommittee reports place on scenic quality and open space protection. For more information about the Town's participation in the Scenic and Cultural Byways Program, please contact John C. Edgar, Town Planner at 279-4538.

Also in the fall of this past year we completed a six-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) which has been forwarded to the Board of Selectmen and Interlakes School Board. It is the intent of this program to forecast major capital improvements in a flexible and stable framework. After Town and District meetings, the Capital Improvements Advisory Committee will resume the process of updating and amending the program. Copies of the Capital Improvements Program 2000 - 2005 are available from the Planning Office at 279-4538.

Whether it be for purposes of long-range planning, capital improvement programming or for the review of proposed subdivision or site development, it is through the commitment of our citizen volunteers that the Planning Board can address its responsibilities in a complete and responsive fashion. We are indebted to all of our volunteers and their families for helping to make Meredith the wonderful community that it is. Thank you.

Routes 3/25 Task Force

Fred Hatch, Chairman
Nancy Lindsey, Vice Chairman
Christopher Whitcher, Selectmen's Rep.
Peter Russell, Town Manager
John Edgar, Town Planner
Janet Rollins, Secretary

Jan Howard
P. Kraft-Lund
Roger Nash
Laura Whitworth
Carl Johnson, Sr.
Herb Vadney
Roger Sorell
Alan Hale

Bernie Kramer
Wm. Beyer
Linda Johnson
Sam Citron
Tony Halsey
Edith Mongo
Larry McGourty

Throughout the past year DOT design engineering has proceeded on the relocation and signalization of the Parade Road – Route 106 intersection with Route 3. Two public meetings have been held in June and November for information to and input from Town officials, the Task Force, and the public. A major issue of the proposed taking of Mary Robertson's historic barn, where she operates her bookshop, has been avoided by redesign; and other issues such as tree preservation have been satisfactorily negotiated.

A Task Force meeting was held on January 19, 2000 to consider suggestions from the public meetings and to select from alternative designs the concept most beneficial to Meredith. The result was approval in general of the pending DOT design, with minor changes proposed. In addition, we will request that a center two-way turn lane be provided from the end of the present design at Reservoir Road northward to Cataldo Road. This will facilitate access to businesses along that section, and duplicates a request made earlier by the Task Force to DOT. Widening in this area will be eastward, holding the present pavement edge on the west; the impact of this is believed to be minor and offset by the benefits. The intersection project is now scheduled for formal public hearing by Governor's Council committee in March or April, 2000 and construction in 2001. The date was moved forward five years by action of the Commissioner and has been accepted by the Town.

A spot improvement to facilitate traffic flow on Route 25 has been completed. A left turn pocket for eastbound left turns into Meredith Village Savings Bank was created by moving the northside curb and sidewalk inward, with the cooperation of the Bank. This project also allowed extension of the double westbound lanes on Route 25 eastward to approximately in front of the theater.

As promised, the DOT has commenced design of spot improvements along Route 25, which they plan to present to the Town by the summer of 2000.

Capital Improvements Program

Robert C. Flanders, Chairman, Planning Board Representative
Carl Johnson, Sr., School Board Representative
James F. Hughes, Board of Selectmen Representative

Robert Ambrose
Allen Gable
Peter Brothers
Roland Boucher

We are pleased to report that the Town of Meredith has an approved, six-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP). In October of 1999, the CIP Advisory Committee completed it's initial program and presented detailed recommendations to the Meredith Planning Board. The Planning Board voted unanimously to adopt the recommendations of the Committee and forwarded the approved program to the Meredith Board of Selectmen and the Inter-Lakes School Board. It is intended that the CIP will serve as a forecasting tool for use by administrators and elected officials in preparing future municipal and school budgets. Informational presentations have been made to local organizations including the Kiwanis Club, the Rotary Club, the Lions Club, and the Inter-Lakes School Board. There are several highlights of the program that are worthy of particular note:

1. In response to concerns raised by the public, the program has been designed to increase voter awareness through the identification, evaluation and prioritization of capital projects that are likely to come before future Town or District meetings;
2. The program has been assembled by a seven member, volunteer committee with assistance from the staff of the Town of Meredith and the Inter-Lakes School District;
3. The program identifies needed improvements, not "wish list" projects;
4. The program is premised upon the need for flexibility, accountability and cooperation;
5. The program is an outline of capital improvements that can be accomplished while maintaining a stable tax rate attributable to the cost of those capital improvements;
6. The program will be reviewed on an annual basis to consider further public input, adjustments, updates, etc.

Those interested in the details of the Capital Improvements Program including specific project recommendations are encouraged to review the program document; Capital Improvements Program for the Town of Meredith, 2000-2005. The CIP is available for inspection at the Meredith Town Hall, SAU #2 Office, and the Meredith Pubic Library.

For a copy of the CIP, or to raise any questions or comments, please contact John C. Edgar, Town Planner at 279-4538.

Meredith Main Street Program

Linda Kelley, Program Manager

In the summer of 1997 the Town of Meredith was named a New Hampshire Main Street Community. A not for profit was formed and the Meredith Main Street Program began. This entitles the Meredith Main Street Program to resources and training through the New Hampshire Main Street Center located in Concord, NH and also the National Main Street Center located in Washington, DC. The Main Street Program is parented by the National Historic Trust. It is a comprehensive program focusing on the revitalization of Main Streets throughout the country.

The designation as a Main Street Community does not provide any financial support by any national or government agency. The successful Main Street Program depends on the partnership of the public and private sector.

The Meredith Main Street Program is dedicated to empowering our community to maintain, strengthen, and revitalize the unique physical, economic, historical and cultural characteristics of the downtown area.

1999 Statistics in the Meredith Main Street Program Area

Public Improvements	Total Invested	\$	85,735.00
Building Improvements		\$	21,223.48
New Construction		\$	432,300.00
Property Sold		\$	1,955,800.00
New Businesses Opened	10	New Jobs	31
Businesses Relocated / Expanded	4	New Jobs	17
Businesses Closed	5	Lost Jobs	12
Businesses Moved Out of Downtown	2	Lost Jobs	5

VITAL STATISTICS

Town of Meredith ~ Births

Pauline L. Jones, Town Clerk

Sheila M. Vachon, Deputy Town Clerk

Date	Childs Name	Fathers Name	Mothers Name
01/05/99	Sundius, Matthew A.	Sundius, Steven	Welsh, Mary
01/10/99	Haley, Mya Ann	Haley, Eric	Haley, Kimberly
01/27/99	Nielsen, Abigail Marie	Nielsen, Glenn	Nielsen, Lyssa
02/03/99	Harper, William Timothy	Harper, William	Corso, Dianna
03/17/99	Osuchowski, Elizabeth Jane	Osuchowski, John	Resch, Lorette
04/03/99	Otis, Rebecca Joan	Otis, Robert	Otis, Theresa
04/20/99	Callahan, Finn Bramley	Callahan, Bruce	Callahan, Catherine
05/12/99	Robinson, Alexandra Elizabeth	Robinson, Bernard	Robinson, Karen
05/13/99	Lorden, Elijah Anthony	Lorden, Travis	Lorden, Joanna
05/17/99	Roberts, Catherine Elizabeth	Roberts, Steven	Roberts, Sonya
05/21/99	Gray, Lindsey Claire	Gray, Peter	Gray, Deborah
06/02/99	Potter, Kelsey Ann	Potter, Jason	Herbert, Karen
06/08/99	Leclaire, Jacqueline Denise	Leclaire, Paul	Leclaire, Beth
06/11/99	Therrien, Levi Jacob	Therrien, Edmund	Rand, Meghan
06/14/99	Huckins, Brandon Jacob	Huckins, Daniel	Tingley, Tonya
06/29/99	Parker, Corinne Ina	Parker, David	Potter, Kerri
07/19/99	Dyment, Shawn Patrick	Dyment, Philip	Roman, Michelle
07/23/99	Dickinson, Margaux Claire	Dickinson, Timothy	Hurd, Stacey
08/09/99	Sleeper, Nathan Tyler	Sleeper, Terrence	Mussen, Cathleen
08/24/99	Deroche, Katie Ann	Deroche, Fred	Deroche, Maureen
09/28/99	Callahan, Alice Audrey	Callahan, Stig	Callahan, Dawn
09/30/99	Donnelly, Michael Fitzgerald	Donnelly, Robert	Donnelly, Sandra
09/30/99	Chase, Shawn Clifford	Chase, Mark	Mudgett, Carrie
10/02/99	Osier, Gavin Spencer	Osier, Jonathan	Osier, Shannon
10/09/99	Buskey, Kaitlynn Germaine	Buskey, Thomas	Buskey, Rose
10/12/99	Hamblet, Chad Paul	Hamblet, David	Hamblet, Beth
10/27/99	Sorell, Micayla Rose	Sorell, Ames	Sorell, Kim
11/17/99	Duquette, Austin Michael	Duquette, Andre	Duquette, Sara
12/06/99	Reed, Michael Fred	Reed, Fred	Reed, Laurie
12/11/99	Bradley, Isabella Wynne	Bradley, Steven	Bradley, Victoria

Town of Meredith ~ Marriages

Pauline L. Jones, Town Clerk

Sheila M. Vachon, Deputy Town Clerk

Date	Grooms Name	Grooms Residency	Brides Name	Brides Residency
02/12/99	Santagate, Anthony C.Jr.	Laconia, NH	Baker, Amylynn	Laconia, NH
02/13/99	Boucher, Daniel	Tewksbury, MA	Gaudette, Cristin M.	Tewksbury, MA
03/20/99	Shaughnessy, Edward	Meredith, NH	D'Orlando, Deidre M.	Revere, MA
03/21/99	O'Mara, Michael T.	Meredith, NH	Wright, Agnes R.	Meredith, NH
04/04/99	Leonard, Frank E.	Meredith, NH	Hedberg, Catherine E.	Meredith, NH
04/10/99	Hurd, Jeffrey S.	Meredith, NH	Hathaway, Joyce L.	Meredith, NH
04/16/99	Fisher, Douglas S.	Clinton, MA	Lysen, Heather J.	Clinton, MA
05/02/99	Labraney, Gerald A.	Center Harbor, NH	Dow, Linda J.	Center Harbor, NH
05/12/99	Citron, Samuel	Meredith, NH	Ylvisaker, Jane E.	Meredith, NH
05/16/99	Rowell, Thomas F.	Holderness, NH	Gallagher, Hope M.	Holderness, NH
05/23/99	Soboslai, Peter S.	Meredith, NH	McDowell, Donna R.	Anderson, SC
05/29/99	Brady, Steven B.	Meredith, NH	Bonner, Lisa A.	Meredith, NH
06/05/99	Holiday, Christopher J.	Meredith, NH	Tapley, Lisa J.	Meredith, NH
06/12/99	Tucker, Brian J.	Tyngsborough, MA	Daye, Kerry J.	Simpsonville, SC
06/26/99	Brewer, Kevin M.	Meredith, NH	Nadeau, Shelly L.	Meredith, NH
06/26/99	Haigh, Adam S.	Wayland, MA	Kelley, Lisa M.	Wayland, MA
07/03/99	Burt, David J.	El Paso, TX	Richter, Barbara	El Paso, TX
07/10/99	Harper, Jerry W. Jr.	Meredith, NH	Tardif, Andrea L.	Meredith, NH
07/17/99	Duquette, Andre J.	Meredith, NH	Cummings, Sara L.	Meredith, NH
07/17/99	Yates, Victor J.	Charlestown, MA	Floor, Lucy W.	Deerfield, MA
07/17/99	Paquin, Timothy	Meredith, NH	Taylor, Helga S.	Meredith, NH
07/22/99	Lacasse, Michael P.	Meredith, NH	Souza, Kathy A.	Meredith, NH
07/23/99	Wiley, Oscar S.	Meredith, NH	Ambrose, Leigh S.	Meredith, NH
07/24/99	Burda, David P.	Moultonboro, NH	Paulsen, Dawn E.	Moultonboro, NH

VITAL STATISTICS

Town of Meredith ~ Marriages continued...

<u>Date</u>	<u>Grooms Name</u>	<u>Grooms Residency</u>	<u>Brides Name</u>	<u>Brides Residency</u>
07/24/99	Burda, David P.	Moultonboro, NH	Paulsen, Dawn E.	Moultonboro, NH
08/06/99	Garcia, Andre'	Laconia, NH	Papp, Lisa M.	Laconia, NH
08/15/99	Reis, Nuno	Pepperell, MA	Zygadlo, Debra	Pepperell, MA
08/24/99	Anderson, Brian E.	Tabernacle, NJ	Marziali, Donna M.	Tabernacle, NJ
09/07/99	Bridgmon, Randy D.	Meredith, NH	Ivashevich, Yekatherina	Meredith, NH
09/11/99	Haley, Shaun P.	Washington, DC	Smith, Jennifer L.	Washington, DC
09/11/99	Conte, Robert A.	Greenbrae, CA	Wallace, Kathleen A.	Mill Valley, CA
09/18/99	Morrison, Aric H.	Meredith, NH	Leonard, Stacey A.	Meredith, NH
09/25/99	Heaney, Thomas J.	Meredith, NH	Fogleman, Tracey J.	Meredith, NH
09/25/99	Prince, Gary A.	Meredith, NH	Piper, Karen L.	Meredith, NH
09/25/99	Tisdale, Robert M.	New Hampton, NH	Heal, Rebekah J.	Center Harbor, NH
10/02/99	Shepard, James P.	Homer, Alaska	Chandler, Cathlene A.	Homer, Alaska
10/03/99	Sutherland, Andrew J.	Winchester, MA	Nuboer, Carolina P.	Winchester, MA
10/09/99	Harris, Daniel W.	Meredith, NH	Beede, Audra L.	Meredith, NH
10/10/99	Archambault, George E.	Center Harbor, NH	Mantorova, Tatyana V.	Center Harbor, NH
10/11/99	Francisco, Joseph R.	Landsdowne, PA	Cox, Dayle M.	Landsdowne, PA
10/15/99	Bourgeois, Michael F.	Meredith, NH	Gnerre, Julie A.	Meredith, NH
10/16/99	Gilson, Aaron T.	Meredith, NH	Fouts, Ami C.	Meredith, NH
10/16/99	Viola, Steven C.	Brighton, MA	Anderson, Karen A.	Brighton, MA
10/16/99	Kimball, Derek H.	Meredith, NH	McCrea, Leah M.	Meredith, NH
10/16/99	Folsom, Allen P. Jr.	Meredith, NH	Muhinsky, Cynthia L.	Meredith, NH
10/23/99	Sanderson, Craig W.	Wakefield, MA	Sullivan, Lori A.	Wakefield, MA
10/23/99	Morrill, Kerry A.	Meredith, NH	Gleeson, Terri L.	Gilford, NH
10/23/99	Pattee, John J.	Meredith, NH	Hopkins, Rachael J.	Meredith, NH
11/20/99	Robitaille, Roger L.	Meredith, NH	Kenerson, Shelly J.	Meredith, NH
12/22/99	Hilson, Paul D.	Meredith, NH	Barnard, Heidi	Meredith, NH
12/31/99	Nickerson, Murray E. III	Meredith, NH	Carlson, Kim G.	Meredith, NH

Town of Meredith ~ Deaths and Burials

Date	Age	Name	Where Died	Residency	Place of Burial
01/02/99	75	Wolfson, Adele	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
01/15/99	68	Taber, Joyce A.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
01/16/99	91	McKeagney, Thelma H.	Maine	Maine	Holland Hill Cemetery, Moultonboro, NH
01/18/99	89	Demar, John H.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
01/21/99	84	Woodman, Theodora L.	Moultonboro, NH	Moultonbor, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
01/22/99		Brown, Roy H.	Plymouth, NH		
01/23/99		Elliott, Ruby M.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
01/26/99	64	Bonner, Glenna M.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	Oakland, Cemetary, Meredith, NH
01/30/99	81	Cook, Olga M.	Meredith, NH	Gilmanton, NH	Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford, CT
01/31/99	84	Way, Nellie L.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
02/04/99	64	Taylor, Charles J.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
02/05/99	82	Richards, William F. Sr.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
02/07/99	88	Thompson, Maude M.	Bangor, ME		
02/09/99	88	Gahn, Arthur	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
02/14/99	69	Bourque, Lorraine T.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Wyoming Cemetery, Melrose, MA
02/15/99		Dunlap, Charles W.	Boscawen, NH		Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
02/18/99		Garver, Julia D.	Laconia, NH	Laconia, NH	Oakland Cemetery, Meredith, NH
02/25/99	88	Baraby, Edith F.	Franklin, NH	Franklin, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
02/25/99	64	Kimball, David L.	Plymouth, NH		Oakland Cemetery, Meredith, NH
02/28/99		Brox, Stanley B.	Palm Beach, FL	Meredith, NH	
03/13/99	84	Howard, Jessie C.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
03/18/99	87	Oldeman, Gertrude	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
03/18/99	79	Kentfield, Rita	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
03/18/99	69	Wigren, Jessie J.	Laconia, NH	New Hampton, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
03/18/99	60	Ruiter, Charles W. Sr.	Center Harbor, NH	Center Harbor, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
03/20/99	85	Grad, Linden E.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
03/28/99	98	Hilchey, Gladys A.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Pine Grove Cemetery, Manchester, NH
04/01/99	87	Enck, Muriel H.	Meredith, NH	Laconia, NH	Union Cemetery, Laconia, NH
04/07/99	89	Bezanson, Verna	Meredith, NH	Moultonboro, NH	Oakdale Cemetery, Middleton, MA
04/08/99		Greene, Geraldine G.	Manchester, NH	Meredith, NH	
05/11/99	68	Steele, Louise M.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Pine Grove Cemetery, Gilford, NH
05/11/99	86	Cramer, Annetta	Dodge City, KS	Dodge City, KS	Meredith Village Cemetery, NH

Town of Meredith ~ Deaths and Burials

continued...

Date	Age	Name	Where Died	Residency	Place of Burial
05/13/99	86	O'Hearn L. Jeannette	Meredith, NH	Tilton, NH	St. Patricks Cemetery, Lowell, MA
05/15/99	89	Ellsworth, Dorothy A.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Franklin Cemetery, Franklin, NH
05/18/99		Porter, Jean A.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
05/20/99		Nevens, Richard A.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
05/28/99	79	Bernard, Martin P. Jr.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Private Cemetery, Sandwich, NH
05/29/99	84	Huckins, Nelson R.	Meredith, NH	New Hampton, NH	Village Cemetery, New Hampton, NH
05/31/99	94	Hanson, Roy	Meredith, NH	Fitchburg, MA	New Cemetery, Ashburnham, MA
06/02/99	85	Adams, Wesley L.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Oakland Cemetery, Meredith, NH
06/07/99	51	Schwartzter, Robert E.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
06/12/99	89	Murgatory, Roy W.	Meredith, NH	Laconia, NH	Bayside Cemetery, Laconia, NH
06/14/99	95	Sinton, Anna E.	Laconia, NH	Laconia, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
06/17/99	74	Greene, Rebecca G.	Meredith, NH	Plymouth, NH	Green Grove Cemetery, Ashland, NH
06/18/99	25	Gray, David C.	Meredith, NH	Wayland, MA	Linwood Cemetery, Weston, MA
06/18/99	48	West, Charles Wayne	Meredith, NH	Owen Sound, Ontario	Greenwood Cemetery, Owen Sound, Ontario
06/20/99	66	Daily, Edward B.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
06/23/99	83	Kenney, Leon E. Sr.	Meredith, NH	Gorham, ME	Friendship Cemetery, Standish, ME
06/24/99	83	Robinson, Charles W.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Simsbury Cemetery Association, Simsbury, CT
06/28/99	88	Fitchett, Marion M.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Riverside Cemetery, Tamworth, NH
07/03/99	43	Kozlowski, Francis J.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
07/04/99	90	Hall, Agnes M.	Meredith, NH	Gilford, NH	
07/06/99	84	Blaisdell, Lucy L.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	Oakland Cemetery, Meredith, NH
07/20/99	85	Mudgett, Alvin B.	Meredith, NH	Gilford, NH	
07/22/99	84	Morris, Doris E.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	St. Stephens Cemetery, Attleboro, MA
07/30/99	74	Beede, Fay R. Jr.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
08/05/99	84	Brown, June S.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
08/09/99	91	Wilkins, Dorothy V.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
08/11/99	98	Ackerman, Ruby M.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Pleasant Hill Cemetery, Hill, NH
08/22/99	72	Brogren, Donald A.	Plymouth, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
08/23/99	68	Pattee, Juan J.	Lebanon, NH	Meredith, NH	
08/24/99	87	Marsh, Agnes J.	Meredith, NH	Ashland, NH	Green Grove Cemetery, Ashland, NH
08/24/99	67	Lake, Barbara A.	Laconia, NH	Laconia, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
08/24/99	88	Chandler, Albert S.	Franklin, NH	Meredith, NH	Oakland Cemetery, Meredith, NH
08/25/99	60	Wallace, Julie A	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	

Date	Age	Name	Where Died	Residency	Place of Burial
08/31/99	90	Boutin, Alice A.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Sacred Heart Cemetery, Lawrence, Ma
09/08/99	89	Harmon, Lois B.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Rural Cemetery, Center Sandwich,NH
09/12/99	84	Moulton, Edward R.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
09/22/99	79	Thornton, Isabelle P.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Wateside Cemetery, Marblehead, MA
09/22/99		Eastwood, Arthur D.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
09/23/99	79	Hanson, Lorraine P.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
09/25/99	94	Abbott, Elizabeth B.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
09/28/99	83	Batchelder, Ada M.	Augusta, GA	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
09/30/99	90	Dilocker, Eldon	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Laurens Cemetery, Laurens, IA
10/01/99	79	Isabelle, Hortense C.	Laconia, NH	Laconia, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
10/04/99	73	Guay, Norman B.	Meredith, NH	Laconia, NH	Sacred Heart Cemetery, Laconia, NH
10/08/99	77	Gerard, Ruth	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Union Cemetery, Laconia, NH
10/10/99	83	Loomis, Marilyn R.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
10/21/99		Woodbury, David	Portsmouth, NH	Meredith, NH	
10/23/99		Riley, Blanche	Concord, NH	Meredith, NH	
10/23/99	78	Lance, Walter H.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
10/27/99	70	Ritzenthaler, Jeanette A.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Oakland Cemetery, Meredith, NH
10/31/99	96	Maloney, Ethelyn A.	Sanbornton, NH	Sanbornton, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
11/09/99	81	Bernard, Othelia M.	Nashua, NH	Meredith, NH	Oakland Cemetery, Meredith, NH
11/19/99	82	Clark, Althea M.	Meredith, NH	Bridgewater, NH	Union Cemetery, Bridgewater, NH
11/25/99	62	Brewster, Sylvia G.	Laconia, NH		Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
11/28/99	84	Audette, Jean E.	Manchester, NH		Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
12/04/99	68	Eckhart, John R.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Winnepesaukee River Cemetery, Northfield, NH
12/05/99	81	Nuttle, Andrew C.	Meredith, NH	Laconia, NH	Meadowview Cemetery, Amherst, NH
12/10/99	70	Swain, Lawrence E.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Meredith Village Cemetery, Meredith, NH
12/14/99	80	Geiger, Virginia M.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
12/16/99		Tetreault, Victor J.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
12/18/99	83	O'Neil, Frances A.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
12/18/99		Pike, Donald	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	Forest Hill Cemetery, Jamaica Plains, MA
12/18/99	72	Dewade, Madelyn J.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
12/21/99		Natola, Grace M.	Laconia, NH	Meredith, NH	
12/22/99		Macey, Ruth M.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	
12/23/99	98	Webster, Helen A.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Pine Grove Cemetery, Gilford, NH
12/24/99	91	Rudzinski, Genevieve	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Oakgrove Cemetery, Bedford, MA
12/26/99	88	Matheson, Kenneth N.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	Union Cemetery, Laconia, NH
12/26/99	84	Cohn, Sylvia B.	Meredith, NH	Meredith, NH	



PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Accountants & Auditors

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • FAX-224-1380

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the
Board of Selectmen and Town Manager
Town of Meredith
Meredith, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of Meredith as of and for the year ended December 31, 1998 as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Town of Meredith has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Meredith, as of December 31, 1998, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its proprietary fund types and nonexpendable trust funds for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

The Unaudited Supplementary Information is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and do not express an opinion on it. In addition, we do not provide assurance that the Town of Meredith is or will become year 2000 compliant, the Town of Meredith's year 2000 remediation efforts will be successful in whole or in part, or that parties with which the Town of Meredith does business are or will become year 2000 compliant.

Town of Meredith
Independent Auditor's Report

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Meredith taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements listed as schedules in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Meredith. The accompanying Single Audit schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements. All such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 22, 1999 on our consideration of the Town of Meredith's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Gregory A. Colby, CPA

April 22, 1999

PLODZIK & SANDERSON
Professional Association

Combined Balance Sheet ~ All Fund Types and Account Group

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999
(Unaudited)

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types		Account Group		Total (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust and Agency		General Long-Term Debt		
<u>ASSETS & OTHER DEBITS</u>								
<u>Assets</u>								
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 5,328,745	\$ 580,587	\$ 204,896	\$ 1,763,309	\$ -			7,877,537
Investments				288,058				288,058
Receivables (Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles)								
Interest	11,105			2,410				13,515
Taxes	897,908							897,908
Accounts	64,887	168,192		719,839				952,918
Special Assessments-Current	10,624							10,624
Special Assessments-Noncurrent	273,197							273,197
Other	27,385							27,385
Interfund Receivable	73,835	192	210,101					284,128
Intergovernmental Receivable	-							-
Statutory Tax Liens Receivable	46,636							46,636
Statutory Tax Liens Reserved Until Collected	(46,636)							(46,636)
Prepaid Items								
<u>Other Debits</u>								
Amount to be provided for Retirement of General Long-Term Debt						4,321,161		4,321,161
TOTAL ASSETS & OTHER DEBITS	\$ 6,687,685	\$ 748,971	\$ 414,997	\$ 2,773,616	\$ 4,321,161	\$	\$	14,946,430

Combined Balance Sheet ~ All Fund Types and Account Group

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types		Account Group		Total (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt		
Accounts Payable	\$ (44)	\$ (34)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	(78)
Retainage Payable			64,401				64,401
Intergovernmental Payable	3,509,384						3,509,384
Interfund Payable	371,170		27,385				398,555
Escrow & Performance Deposits	11,100			26,871			37,971
Deferred Revenue	108,850						108,850
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable				719,839			719,839
General Obligation Debt Payable					4,110,284		4,110,284
Capital Leases Payable							-
Compensated Absences Payable					210,877		210,877
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 4,000,461	\$ (34)	\$ 91,786	\$ 746,710	\$ 4,321,161	\$	9,160,084

EQUITY

Fund Balances

Reserved for Endowments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,591	\$ -	\$	150,591
Reserved for Encumbrances	512,788	37,769	116,450				667,007
Reserved for Special Purposes		145,042		1,876,315			2,021,357
<u>Unreserved</u>							
Designated for Special Purposes		566,194	\$ 206,761				772,955
Undesignated (Deficit)	2,174,436						2,174,436
TOTAL EQUITY	2,687,224	749,005	323,211	2,026,906			5,786,346
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 6,687,685	\$ 748,971	\$ 414,997	\$ 2,773,616	\$ 4,321,161	\$	14,946,430

Special Revenue Funds

Combining Balance Sheet

December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

	Public Library	Conservation Commission	D.A.R.E. Program	Land Use Change Tax	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Total
<u>ASSETS</u>							
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 23,245	\$ 86,550	\$ -	\$ 15,760	\$ 261,689	\$ 193,344	\$ 580,587
Receivables (Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles)							
Accounts							
Interfund Receivable			192		52,507	115,686	168,192
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 23,245	\$ 86,550	\$ 192	\$ 15,760	\$ 314,195	\$ 309,029	\$ 748,971
<u>LIABILITIES & EQUITY</u>							
<u>Liabilities</u>							
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (34)	\$ -	\$ (34)
Deferred Revenue-Access Fees							0
TOTAL LIABILITIES					(34)	0	(34)
<u>Equity</u>							
<u>Fund Balances</u>							
Reserved for Encumbrances					35,169	2,600	37,769
Reserved for Special Purposes		1,486			53,481	90,075	145,042
Unreserved							
Designated for Special Purposes	23,245	85,064	192	15,760	225,579	216,354	566,194
TOTAL EQUITY	23,245	86,550	192	15,760	314,229	309,029	749,005
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 23,245	\$ 86,550	\$ 192	\$ 15,760	\$ 314,195	\$ 309,029	\$ 748,971

Capital Project Funds

Combining Balance Sheet

December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

	Capital Equipment and Improvements	Athletic Fields and Tennis Courts Prescott Park	Pleasant Street Road/ Water/Sewer Improvements	Community Center Fund	Landfill Closure	Sand/Salt Storage Building	Total
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 7,337	\$ -	\$ 284,271	\$ 2,036	\$ 5,947	\$ (88,748)	\$ 204,896
Interfund Receivable						\$ 204,154	\$ 210,101
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 7,337	\$ -	\$ 284,271	\$ 2,036	\$ 5,947	\$ 115,406	\$ 414,997

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES

<u>Liabilities</u>							
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Due to General Fund		21,438			5,947		27,385
Retainage Payable			64,401				64,401
TOTAL LIABILITIES		21,438	64,401		5,947		91,786
<u>Fund Balances</u>							
Reserve For Encumbrances			1,000			115,450	116,450
Unreserved						(44)	206,761
Undesignated (Deficit)	7,337	(21,438)	218,870	2,036			323,211
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	7,337	(21,438)	219,870	2,022		115,406	323,211
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$ 7,337	\$ -	\$ 284,271	\$ 2,022	\$ 5,947	\$ 115,406	\$ 414,997

Trust and Agency Funds Combining Balance Sheet

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

	Trust Funds				
	Expendable		Nonexpendable		Totals
	Library	Capital Reserve	Others	Town	
<u>ASSETS</u>					
Cash & Equivalents					
Investments					
<u>Receivables</u>	135,786	\$ 254,846	\$ 1,453,881	\$ 27,711	\$ 1,763,309
Interest				152,272	288,058
Accounts				2,410	2,410
				719,839	719,839
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 135,786	\$ 254,846	\$ 1,453,881	\$ 182,393	\$ 2,773,616
<u>LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES</u>					
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Interfund Payable					-
Escrow and Performance Deposits				26,871	26,871
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable				719,839	719,839
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-	-	746,710	746,710
<u>Fund Balances</u>					
Reserved For Endowments				150,591	150,591
Reserved For Special Purposes	135,786	254,846	1,453,881	31,802	1,876,315
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	135,786	254,846	1,453,881	182,393	2,026,906
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$ 135,786	\$ 254,846	\$ 1,453,881	\$ 182,393	\$ 2,773,616

Agency Funds

Combining Statement of Changes in
Assets and Liabilities
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999
(Unaudited)

	Balance 01/01/1999	Additions	Deductions	Balance 12/31/1999
<u>Developers' Performance Bond Fund</u>				
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 62,038	\$ 11,409	\$ 46,576	\$ 26,871
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Escrow and Performance Deposits	\$ 62,038	\$ 11,409	\$ 46,576	\$ 26,871
 <u>ICMA Deferred Compensation Plan</u>				
<u>Assets</u>				
Due From Others	\$ 611,079	\$ 131,762	\$ 23,002	\$ 719,839
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable	\$ 611,079	\$ 131,762	\$ 23,002	\$ 719,839
 <u>TOTAL - ALL AGENCY FUNDS</u>				
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 62,038	\$ 11,409	\$ 46,576	\$ 26,871
Due From Others	611,079	131,762	23,002	719,839
Total Assets	\$ 673,117	\$ 143,171	\$ 69,578	\$ 746,710
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Escrow and Performance Deposits	62,038	11,409	46,576	26,871
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable	611,079	131,762	23,002	719,839
Total Liabilities	\$ 673,117	\$ 143,171	\$ 69,578	\$ 746,710

Comparative Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures

General Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

	1998	1999	1999	2000	Balance
	Encumbered	Appropriation	Expended	Encumbered	(Overdrafts)
<u>General Government</u>					
Executive Office		\$ 126,598	\$ 137,438		\$ (10,840)
Executive - Municipal Administration		\$ 423,635	\$ 349,905		
Personnel Administration		\$ 710,017	\$ 669,001		
Town Clerk		81,680	75,135		6,545
Finance Department		157,278	136,889		20,389
Assessor		74,092	73,525		567
Tax Collector		44,344	41,857		2,487
Planning and Zoning		181,721	156,044		25,677
Regional Associations		45,406	45,406		-
Encumbrances	615,631	-	217,118	512,788	(114,275)
<u>Public Safety</u>					
Police		743,185	696,751		46,434
Ambulance		204,750	202,176		2,574
Fire		151,763	148,252		3,511
<u>Public Works</u>					
Solid Waste Disposal		633,967	505,186		128,781
Building & Grounds		117,424	97,590		19,834
Highway Department		1,246,257	1,210,928		35,329
Cemetery		39,480	34,061		5,419
<u>Water Distribution</u>					
Hydrant Rental		69,000	69,000		-

Comparative Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures

General Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1999
(Unaudited)

	1998	1999	1999	2000	Balance
	<u>Encumbered</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Encumbered</u>	<u>(Overdrafts)</u>
<u>Health</u>					
Health Agencies		120,457	120,457		-
<u>Welfare</u>					
Direct Assistance		25,400	21,323		4,077
<u>Culture and Recreation</u>					
Parks and Recreation		133,273	133,717		(444)
Library		292,726	268,405		24,321
<u>Economic Development</u>					
Economic Development		22,000	22,815		(815)
<u>Debt Service</u>					
Principal - Long-Term Debt		338,218	330,958		7,261
Interest - Long-Term Debt		250,986	250,577		409
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes		10,000	-		10,000
<u>Intergovernmental</u>					
School Appropriation		7,034,364	7,034,364		-
County Appropriation		1,199,135	1,199,135		-
<u>Other Financing Uses - Interfund Transfers</u>					
Conservation Commission		1,453	1,006		447
Expendable Trust Funds		525,000	525,000		
<u>Total Appropriations, Expenditures, and Encumbrances</u>	\$ 615,631	\$ 15,003,609	\$ 14,774,018	\$ 512,788	\$ 217,688

Comparative Statement of Revenues General Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

	Estimated	Actual	Over (Under) Budget
<u>Taxes</u>			
Property	\$ 12,307,960	\$ 12,322,693	\$ 14,733
Yield	10,000	14,187	4,187
Boat	32,000	40,856	8,856
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	160,000	134,200	(25,800)
Total Taxes	<u>12,509,960</u>	<u>12,511,936</u>	<u>1,977</u>
<u>Licenses and Permits</u>			
Motor Vehicle Permits	650,000	880,916	230,916
Building Permits	18,500	21,584	3,084
Other Licenses, Permits, Fees	40,675	48,790	8,115
Total Licenses and Permits	<u>709,175</u>	<u>951,290</u>	<u>242,115</u>
<u>Intergovernmental Revenues</u>			
<u>State/Federal</u>			
Highway Block Grant	135,117	135,117	-
Shared Revenue	31,493	76,659	45,166
Rooms & Meals Tax	74,397	95,948	21,551
Water Pollution Grants	23,281	24,932	1,651
Filtration Grant	-	28,144	28,144
State & Forest Land Reimbursement	379	343	(36)
FEMA - Federal and State - Flood	-	14,706	14,706
Other State/Federal Revenue	4,500	35,203	30,703
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	<u>269,167</u>	<u>411,051</u>	<u>141,885</u>
<u>Charges for Services</u>			
Income from Departments	<u>399,939</u>	<u>505,514</u>	<u>105,575</u>
<u>Miscellaneous Revenues</u>			
Sale of Town Property	5,000	17,187	12,187
Interest on Investments	75,000	140,500	65,500
Insurance & Betterment Assessments	57,356	157,755	100,399
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	<u>137,356</u>	<u>315,442</u>	<u>178,087</u>
<u>Other Financing Sources</u>			
<u>Interfund Transfers</u>			
Special Revenue Fund	221,453	212,953	(8,500)
Trust Funds	16,000	62,875	46,875
Total Other Financing Sources	<u>237,453</u>	<u>275,828</u>	<u>38,375</u>
Total Revenues & Other Financing Sources	<u>14,263,050</u>	<u>\$ 14,971,061</u>	<u>\$ 708,013</u>
Unreserved Fund Balance Used To			
Reduce Tax Rate	<u>722,000</u>		
Total Revenues, Other Financing Sources and Use of Fund Balance	<u>\$ 14,985,050</u>		

Statement of Changes in Unreserved - Undesignated Fund Balance General Fund

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999
(Unaudited)

<u>Unreserved - Undesignated</u>		
<u>Fund Balance - January 1</u>		\$ 1,970,735
<u>Deductions</u>		
Unreserved Fund Balance Used		
To Reduce 1999 Tax Rate		<u>(722,000)</u>
Subtotal		\$ 1,248,735
<u>Additions</u>		
<u>1999 Budget Summary</u>		
Revenue Surplus (page 74)	\$ 708,013	
Unexpended Balance of		
Appropriations (page 73)	<u>217,688</u>	
1999 Budget Surplus		<u>925,701</u>
<u>Unreserved - Undesignated</u>		
<u>Fund Balance - December 31</u>		<u><u>\$ 2,174,436</u></u>

Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

NONEXPENDABLE TRUSTS	PURPOSE	Principal			Income			Total Principal & Income
		Beginning Balance 01/01/1999	New Funds	Gain (Loss)	Ending Balance 12/31/1999	Beginning Balance 01/01/1999	Income Expense	
WWII Memorial	Upkeep	\$ 335		\$ 6	\$ 341	\$ 1,500	\$ 73	\$ 1,573
Oakland Cemetery	Cemetery Care	3,951		69	4,019	1,685	224	\$ 1,909
Outlying Cemeteries	Cemetery Care	9,859		171	10,030	11,279	841	12,120
Town Cemetery	Cemetery Care	17,561		305	17,865	8,000	1,017	9,016
Ebon S. Roberts	Library	284		5	289	74	14	88
Edwin E. Beede	Library	99,748		1,732	101,480	455	3,986	(359)
Samuel W. Rollins	Library	4,250		74	4,324	1,328	222	1,550
J. Bennett/E. Swain	Library	655		11	666	170	33	203
William E. Bixby	Library	142		2	145	37	7	44
Hattie R. Erskine	Library Clock	101		2	103	106	8	114
George S. Fogg	School District	1,457		25	1,483	776	89	865
Town Cemetery	General	2,763		48	2,811	2,477	208	2,685
Caroline M. Swift	Cemetery Wreath	428		7	435	106	21	127
J. Beede Cemetery	Perpetual Care	6,488		113	6,600	1,548	320	1,867
Total		\$ 148,021	\$ -	\$ 2,570	\$ 150,591	\$ 29,539	\$ 7,063	\$ 31,802
							\$ (4,800)	\$ 182,393

Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

EXPENDABLE TRUSTS	Principal			Income			Total Principal & Income
	Beginning Balance 01/01/1999	New Funds	Gain (Loss)	Ending Balance 12/31/1999	Beginning Balance 01/01/1999	Income Expense	
PURPOSE							
Cemetery Maint.	\$ 16,570		\$ (1,055)	\$ 15,515	\$ 5,886	\$ 1,039	\$ 15,515
Library	10,000		12	10,012	1,403	528	11,943
Employee Benefits	55,527	25,000	(15,296)	65,232	-	2,599	65,232
Landfill Closure	557,066	100,000	675	657,742	5,213	26,141	688,133
Sand/Salt Storage	200,000		241	200,241	15,798	9,989	226,029
Municipal Building	150,000	50,000	182	200,182	7,895	7,366	215,443
Solid Waste	8,587	40,000	12	48,598	-	443	49,041
Fire Department	20,000		24	20,024	-	926	20,950
Fire Department	10,000	45,251	13	55,264	-	509	55,264
Downtown Parking	-	75,000	2	75,002	-	86	75,088
Total Town Trust	1,027,750	335,251	(15,188)	1,347,813	36,195	49,624	1,422,638
Ruth S. Briggs	30,000			30,000	2,371	1,364	30,735
Total Expendable Trust	\$1,057,750	\$ 335,251	\$ (15,188)	\$1,377,813	\$ 38,566	\$ 50,988	\$1,453,373

CAPITAL RESERVES	Beginning Balance			Ending Balance		
	01/01/1999	Added	Paid	Gain/Loss	Income	12/31/1999
Fire Truck	\$ 2,135				\$ 106	\$ 2,241
Police	24,318				1,205	25,522
Water Department	26,428				1,309	27,737
Prescott Park Expansion	-	195,000			-	195,000
Total Town Capital Reserves	52,881	195,000	-	-	2,619	250,500
Interlakes School District	4,170				206	4,376
Totals	\$ 57,050	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,826	\$ 254,876

Treasurer's Account Summary

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

Citizens Bank

Operating Account	\$ 137,243.62
Payroll Account	1,964.64
Municipal Checking	8,324.06
Certificates of Deposit	1,750,000.00

Meredith Village Savings Bank

Community Park Account	15,372.53
Baby Bicentennial	969.68
Community Center Fund	2,037.05
Pyramid Investment Account	4,278,611.64

Fleet Bank

Engineering Account	<u>26,871.00</u>
Total Cash and Equivalents Balance 12/31/99	<u><u>6,221,394.22</u></u>

Long-Term Indebtedness

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)

Long-term debt payable at December 31, 1999 is comprised of the following individual issues:

Description of Issue	Original Amount	Issue Date	Maturity Date	Interest Rate %	Outstanding at 12/31/99
General Obligation Debt Payable					
1988 Sewer Extension Bonds	\$ 603,200	1988	2008	5.750%	\$ 337,877
1989 Library Improvement Bonds	\$ 750,000	1989	2008	5.750%	\$ 452,846
1988 Water System Improvement Bonds	\$ 2,000,000	1988	2016	5.750%	\$ 1,558,767
1994 Sewer Extension Bonds	\$ 229,000	1994	2014	4.500%	\$ 167,629
1995 Sewer Extension Bonds	\$ 50,314	1995	2005	6.000%	\$ 12,924
1998 Westbury Road Sewer Bonds	\$ 55,000	1998	2013	4.500%	\$ 53,154
1998 Wagon Wheel Sewer Bonds	\$ 211,874	1998	2013	5.370%	\$ 190,687
1999 Pleasant Street Sewer Bond	\$ 1,400,000	1999	2014	4.750%	\$ 1,336,400
Total General Obligation Debt Payable - December 31, 1999					<u>\$ 4,110,284</u>

Annual Requirements To Amortize General Obligation Debt:

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1999	Governmental Fund Debt		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2000	\$ 240,623	\$ 239,328	\$ 316,495
2001	249,780	219,851	308,441
2002	252,403	205,085	307,682
2003	260,394	191,008	303,295
2004	268,853	176,811	299,297
2005-2018	2,838,231	804,945	2,951,971
<u>Totals</u>	<u>\$ 4,110,284</u>	<u>\$ 1,837,028</u>	<u>\$ 4,487,181</u>

Compensated Absences Payable	
Vacation and Sick Leave Including Benefits	<u>\$ 210,877</u>

Tax Collector's Report

Summary of Warrants

1-1-99 to 12-31-99

<u>Debits</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>
Uncollected Taxes 1-1-99		
Property Taxes	\$	\$ 732,281.70
Betterment Assessments		15,418.18
Land Use Change Tax		
Yield Taxes		589.06
Water Rents		61,485.12
Sewer Rents		143,648.49
Taxes Committed to Collector		
Property Taxes	12,308,505.85	
Betterment Assessments	55,625.44	
Land Use Change Taxes	68,700.00	
Yield Taxes	16,744.49	
Water Rents	226,108.51	
Sewer Rents	513,017.67	
Overpayments		
Property Taxes	30,697.81	256.32
Water Rents	21.00	
Sewer Rents	76.64	73.73
Betterment Assessments	251.69	262.15
Interest Collected		
Property Taxes	9,835.60	30,911.06
Betterment Assessments	22.98	280.22
Land Use Change Tax	181.86	
Yield Taxes	6.23	48.96
Water Rents	463.97	1,312.06
Sewer Rents	893.14	2,756.25
Total Debits	<u>\$ 13,231,152.88</u>	<u>\$ 989,323.30</u>

Credits

Remitted to Treasurer

Property Taxes	\$ 11,570,462.69	\$ 732,329.24
Betterment Assessments	45,252.80	15,680.33
Land Use Change Tax	68,700.00	
Yield Taxes	13,305.46	589.06
Water Rents	172,848.60	61,241.01
Sewer Rents	394,714.95	143,132.50
Property Tax Interest	9,835.60	30,911.06
Betterment Assessment Interest	22.98	280.22
Land Use Change Tax	181.86	
Yield Tax Interest	6.23	48.96
Water Rents Interest	463.97	1,312.06
Sewer Rents Interest	893.14	2,756.25

Tax Collector's Report

Summary of Warrants

1-1-99 to 12-31-99

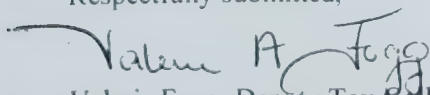
<u>Credits continued</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>
Abatements		
Property Taxes	\$ 4,566.48	\$ 208.78
Water Rents	749.25	244.11
Sewer Rents	2,693.53	589.72
Uncollected Taxes 12-31-99		
Property Taxes	764,174.49	
Betterment Assessments	10,624.33	
Yield Taxes	3,439.03	
Water Rents	52,531.66	
Sewer Rents	115,685.83	
Total Credits	<u>\$ 13,231,152.88</u>	<u>\$ 989,323.30</u>

Summary of Tax Lien Accounts

1-1-99 to 12-31-99

<u>Debits</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>Prior</u>
Uncollected Liens 1-1-99			
Beginning Balance 1-1-99	\$	\$ 197,957.06	\$ 126,284.39
Liens Executed During 1999	420,451.97		
Overpayments			
Interest after Lien	12,976.29	21,415.88	42,734.57
Redemption Costs	1,416.75	821.25	2,152.00
Total Debits	<u>\$ 434,845.01</u>	<u>\$ 220,194.19</u>	<u>\$ 171,170.96</u>
Credits			
Remitted to Treasurer			
Redemptions	\$ 211,923.06	\$ 95,459.79	\$ 120,197.41
Interest & Costs	14,393.04	22,237.13	44,886.57
Abatements	1,153.50		
Deeded to Town			
Uncollected Taxes 12-31-99	207,375.41	102,497.27	6,086.98
Total Credits	<u>\$ 434,845.01</u>	<u>\$ 220,194.19</u>	<u>\$ 171,170.96</u>

Respectfully submitted,


Valerie Fogg, Deputy Tax Collector

1999 Tax Rate Calculation

Town of Meredith

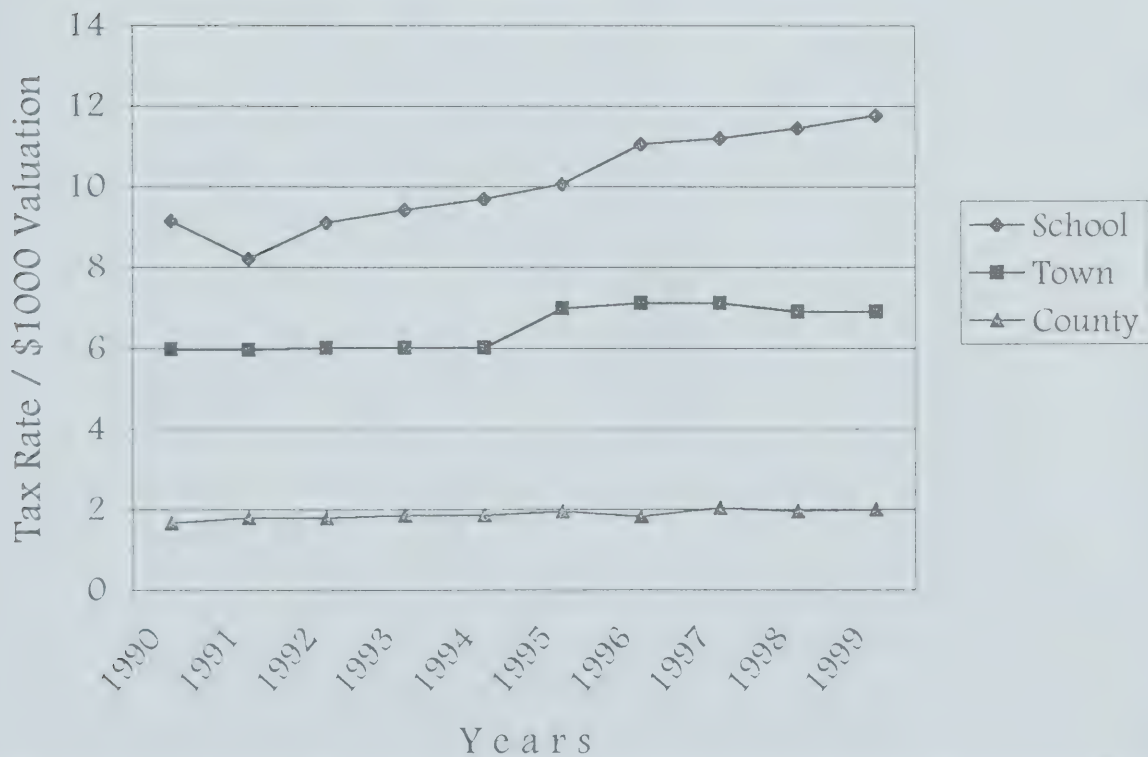
1999 Tax Rates
per \$1,000
Valuation

Appropriations	\$ 7,605,096		
Less: Revenues	3,594,445		
Less: Shared Revenues	36,312		
Add: Overlay	99,988		
War Service Credits	<u>62,650</u>		
Approved Town Tax Effort		4,136,977	
Municipal Tax Rate			\$ 6.89
Due to Regional School	7,254,057		
Less: Adequate Education Grant	219,693		
Less: State Education Taxes	<u>4,027,463</u>		
Approved School Tax Effort		3,006,901	
State Education Taxes			\$ 5.00
Equalized Valuation (No Utilities) X	6.60		
	610,221,695	4,027,463	
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (No Utilities)			\$ 6.77
	595,089,306		
Excess State Education Taxes to be Remitted to State			
School Tax Rate			\$ 11.77
Due to County	1,199,135		
Less: Shared Revenue	<u>8,881</u>		
Approved County Tax Effort		1,190,254	
County Tax Rate			\$ 1.98
Combined Tax Rate			\$ 20.64
Total Property Taxes Assessed		12,361,595	
Less: War Service Credits		<u>(62,650)</u>	
Total Property Tax Commitment		<u><u>\$ 12,298,945</u></u>	
		<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>Assessment</u>
Net Assessed Valuation	\$ 600,781,506	13.87	\$ 8,334.132
State Education Taxes	\$ 595,089,306	6.77	<u>\$ 4,027,463</u>
Proof of Rate			\$ 12,361,595

Ten Year Tax Rate Comparison

Town of Meredith

Year	School	Town	County	Combined Tax Rate	Net Valuation
1990	9.14	5.96	1.64	16.74	578,578,953
1991	8.20	5.94	1.77	15.91	584,276,112
1992	9.09	6.00	1.77	16.86	586,488,392
1993	9.42	5.99	1.83	17.24	588,980,029
1994	9.69	5.99	1.83	17.51	591,943,189
1995	10.05	6.97	1.93	18.95	593,993,263
1996	11.05	7.10	1.81	19.96	575,967,000
1997	11.18	7.09	2.02	20.29	579,931,823
1998	11.44	6.89	1.94	20.27	589,261,949
1999	11.77	6.89	1.98	20.64	600,781,506



SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Summary of Town Owned Property

Map & Lot	Location	Valuation
I02-021	Bear Island - Town Dock	64,800
I07-006	Bear Island - Vacant Land	54,300
R08-014	Meredith Center Road - Childs Park	19,100
R08-015	Meredith Center Road - Childs Park	16,200
R08-047	Meredith Center Road - Vacant Land	14,500
R08-048	Meredith Center Road - Fire Station	180,900
R13-005	Lake Wicwas - Penninsula - Conservation Land	50,300
R13-006	Lake Wicwas - Island - Conservation Land	22,300
R13-007	Lake Wicwas - Island - Conservation Land	21,800
R14-001	Wicwood Shores Road - Hamlin Forest	283,700
R14-028	Chemung Road - Hamlin Forest	56,700
R14-029	Chemung Road - Wicwas Beach/Boat Ramp	69,500
R17-016	Chemung and Camp Waldron - Vacant Land	16,400
R17-035	Chemung and Old Stanton Road - Vacant Land	19,600
R17-036	Chemung Road - Vacant Land	22,300
R22-002	Tucker Mountain Road - Formerly Edgerly Schoolhouse	6,000
R22-007	Tucker Mountain Road - Town Forest	29,100
R22-013	Nedeau Road - Town Forest	46,700
R31-020	Carleton Road - Old Poor Farm - Town Forest	86,400
R32-001	Hermit Woods Road - Town Forest	38,300
R35-003	Pinnacle Ridge & Edgerly School Roads	12,500
S02-005	Beattie and Old Center Harbor Roads - Conservation Land	28,700
S15-008	Jenness Hill Road - Public Works	556,700
S18-055	Tracy Way - Part of Right of Way	14,300
S18-056	Tracy Way	15,900
S22-020	Parade Road - Waukewan Highlands Community Park	36,700
S22-022	Parade Road - Waukewan Highlands Community Park	203,400
S22-027	Tracy Way - Vacant Land	7,600
S23-021	Reservoir Road - Pumping Station	18,800
S23-051	Foundry Avenue/NH Route 104 - Green Belt	8,800
U01-01A	Neal Shore Road - Vacant Land	21,800
U01-034	Neal Shore Road - Right of Way	2,000
U03-028A	Waukewan Street - Bath House	18,500
U03-030	Waukewan Street - Waukewan Beach	233,200
U04-025	Waukewan Street - Monkey Pond	1,400
U05-01A	Waukewan Street - Water Department	15,400
U05-01B	Waukewan Street - Water Department	122,300

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Summary of Town Owned Property continued...

Map & Lot	Location	Valuation
U05-002	Waukegan Street - Waukegan Park - Boat Ramp	119,500
U06-031	Waukegan Avenue - Swazey Park	126,300
U06-037	High Street - Parking Lot	19,500
U06-038	High Street - Parking Lot	23,300
U06-059	Main Street - Library	489,900
U06-060	Main Street - Community Park	54,400
U06-063	Water Street - Parking Lot	30,300
U06-112	Daniel Webster Highway - Fire Station	408,500
U06-117C	Lang Street - Swazey Cemetery	100
U06-145	Daniel Webster Highway - Town Docks	190,900
U07-044	Main Street - Municipal Building	231,000
U07-086A	Daniel Webster Highway - Water Line - Right of Way	600
U07-107	Daniel Webster Highway - Pumping Station	68,200
U07-108	Daniel Webster Highway - Parking Lot	81,100
U07-121	NH Route 25 - Scenic Park	73,500
U07-123	NH Route 25 - Scenic Park	63,500
U07-126	Daniel Webster Highway - Hesky Park Boat Ramp	174,200
U07-127	Daniel Webster Highway - Hesky Park	175,800
U10-017	Philbrook Avenue - Pumping Station	10,700
U10-031	Daniel Webster Highway - Prescott Park	173,900
U10-033	Daniel Webster Highway - Prescott Park	36,100
U10-034	Daniel Webster Highway - Police Station	288,300
U10-035	Daniel Webster Highway - Vacant Land	46,400
U11-050A	Greenmore Road - Vacant Land	22,200
U11-067	Kelly Lane - Fire Pond	4,300
U11-071	Boynton Road - Meredith Village Cemetery	111,500
U12-004	Philbrook Avenue - Vacant Land	12,600
U12-015	Near Jenness Hill Road - Vacant Land	179,600
U14-001	Daniel Webster Highway - Waste Treatment Plant	46,600
U15-014A	NH Route 25 - Back Land	17,500
U15-019A	Pleasant Street - Clough Park	31,900
U15-027	Morrison Avenue - Cul-De-Sac	2,000
U33-015A	Cattle Landing Road - Parking Lot	45,500
U33-025	Cattle Landing Road - Town Docks	197,200
U35-010	Love Joy Sands Road - Parking and Town Dock	134,000
U39-058	Leavitt Park Road - Leavitt Park	206,400

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Summary Inventory of Valuation ~ All Properties

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1999

Value of Land Only

Current Use	\$ 1,075,256
Residential	266,721,000
Commercial/Industrial	<u>22,455,600</u>

Total Value of Land 290,251,856

Value of Buildings Only

Residential	245,917,900
Manufactured Housing	5,262,400
Commercial/Industrial	<u>56,104,500</u>

Total Value of Buildings 307,284,800

Public Utilities

Electric	<u>\$ 5,692,200</u>
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Total Valuation Before Exemptions 603,228,856

Exemptions

Blind	72,750
Elderly	1,900,000
Totally & Permanently Disabled	450,000
Solar/Windpower	<u>24,600</u>

Total Exemptions 2,447,350

Net Taxable Valuation \$ 600,781,506

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

2000 Meredith Town Warrant

State of New Hampshire

TO THE INHABITANTS OF MEREDITH QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS:

You are hereby notified to meet at St. Charles Auditorium, 281 Daniel Webster Highway, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next, March 14, 2000, from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots; and at 7:00 PM, Wednesday, March 15, 2000, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School Gymnasium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on the following articles:

BALLOT ARTICLES TO BE ACTED UPON:

ARTICLE 1

To bring your ballots for:

- One (1) Selectman for three (3) years
- One (1) Supervisor of the Checklist for six (6) years
- One (1) Library Trustee for two (2) years
- Three (3) Library Trustee for three (3) years

ARTICLE 2

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with the rezoning of Tax Map U06, Lots 3 and 4?

Purpose of the Amendment: Tax Map U06, Lots 3 and 4 are located on Main Street within the "Business and Industry District". The "Business and Industry District" abuts the "Central Business District". The proposed amendment would extend the "Central Business District" boundary to include Lots 3 and 4.

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 3

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with the criteria for the granting of a variance?

Purpose of the Amendment: The current ordinance includes five criteria that must be met in order for the Zoning Board of Adjustment to grant a Zoning Variance. One of these criteria, Article VII, Section C, Subsection (b), is inconsistent with language contained in applicable state law; specifically RSA 674:33. The proposed amendment would make this criteria consistent with state law.

ARTICLE 4

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with building heights for waterfront properties?

Purpose of the Amendment: The current ordinance permits building heights up to 32' as a matter of right and provides for heights up to 38' upon the grant of a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Building heights greater than 38' require a Variance. These provisions apply to waterfront properties in five zoning districts; Forestry and Conservation District, Forestry and Rural District, Meredith Neck District, Residential District, and the Shoreline District. The proposed amendment would permit building heights up to 38' as a matter of right, thereby eliminating the requirement for a Special Exception. Building heights greater than 38' would continue to require a Variance.

ARTICLE 5

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance having to do with expansion of non-conforming structures?

Purpose of the Amendment: The current ordinance requires the grant of a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment in order to expand a non-conforming structure where the expansion would increase the degree of non-conformity. The proposed amendment would permit expansions having footprints of 400 square feet or less as a matter of right, thereby eliminating the Special Exception requirement. A Special Exception would continue to be a requirement in circumstances where the footprint of the expansion, or the footprint of cumulative expansions, exceeds 400 square feet.

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 6

“Shall we modify the exemption for the disabled? The exemption based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers shall be \$50,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years and own and occupy the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$15,000 or if married, a combined net income of not more than \$20,400; and own net assets not in excess of \$50,000 excluding the value of the person’s residence.”

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to (i) raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000.00) for the purpose of water and sewer main replacements, improved underground drainage, reconstruction and construction of sidewalks, and road resurfacing on Plymouth Street; replacing and upgrading the existing water main on Route 3 North and extend gravity municipal sewer from Circle Drive to the Center Harbor Town line; said appropriation to be inclusive of State or Federal grants-in-aid, or contributions from other sources; (ii) to authorize the issuance of serial bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33 , of the said appropriation, provided , however, that the total amount of bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of such grants-in-aid, or contributions from other sources; (iii) to authorize the Town Treasurer to make temporary borrowings, in accordance with the provisions of said Chapter, in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds or notes; and (iv)to authorize the Treasurer to determine the method and manner of sale of such bonds, notes, and temporary borrowings, as shall be in best interest of the Town, including the authority to enter into a Tax Regulatory Agreement containing such representations and covenants as are necessary to maintain such notes and temporary borrowings; to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for and accept any or all State or Federal grants-in-aid, or other contributions in aid of the project and to expend the appropriation in accordance herewith. (Passage requires affirmative vote of two-thirds present and voting)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to (i) raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$325,000.00) for the purpose of purchasing a new Fire Truck, said appropriations to be inclusive of contributions from other sources; (ii) to authorize the issuance of serial bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, of the said appropriation, provided, however, that the total amount of bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of such grants-in-aid, or contributions from other sources; (iii) to authorize the Town Treasurer to make temporary borrowings, in accordance with the provisions of said Chapter, in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds or notes; and (iv) to authorize the Town Treasurer to determine the method and manner of sale of such bonds, notes and temporary borrowings, as shall be in the best interest of the Town, including the authority to enter into a Tax Regulatory Agreement containing such representations and covenants as are necessary to maintain such notes and temporary borrowings; to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for and accept any contributions in aid of the project and to expend the appropriation in accordance herewith. (Passage requires affirmative vote of two-thirds present and voting)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable general fund trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Municipal Technology Improvement Fund for the purpose of purchasing or providing new municipal computer hardware and/or software and to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) toward this purpose and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable general fund trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Community Center Fund for the purpose of developing or constructing a center in the future and to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) toward this purpose and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) to be added to the Downtown Parking Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) for the purpose of State Aid Reconstruction Program – 2 to 1 match for improvements to various roads under the State Aid Reconstruction Program, provided that the State of New Hampshire appropriates Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00). Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to the Employee Benefits Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be added to the Landfill Closure Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) to be added to the Municipal Building Expendable Trust Fund previously established. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to be added to the Solid Waste Trailer Replacement Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$140,000.00) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend. Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.

Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Million Sixteen Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty Nine Dollars (\$8,016,669) for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 19

Received pursuant to a petition of 25 or more legal voters: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Two Dollars (\$2,592.00) in support of the Winnepesaukee Wellness Center.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the additional sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000.00) to be added to the Canal Bridge Project to allow the one lane vehicle bridge to be constructed as a covered bridge and to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for and accept any contributions, grants in aid, etc. for the project to reduce said cost.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

TOWN WARRANT INFORMATION

ARTICLE 21

“To see if the Town will vote to send the following resolution to the New Hampshire General Court: Resolved, New Hampshire’s natural, cultural and historic resources in this Town and throughout the state are worthy of protection and, therefore, the State of New Hampshire should establish and fund a permanent public/private partnership for the voluntary conservation of these important resources.”

ARTICLE 22

Resolution in Support of Home Rule

Whereas, the only existing home rule in New Hampshire is the ability to choose the form of government at the local level; and

Whereas, municipal home rule is needed to avoid the lengthy and costly process of requesting state permission for action which is truly “local in nature; and

Whereas, true municipal home rule may increase the timeliness within which Municipality can act in tending to its affairs; and

Whereas, a home rule amendment to the New Hampshire constitution would create greater flexibility by town meeting voters to determine their own affairs;

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Town of Meredith by its board of selectmen/council does hereby support a home rule amendment to the New Hampshire Constitution and encourages its citizens to vote yes on Ballot Question #1 in November 2000.

Board of Selectmen
Meredith, New Hampshire

Christopher C. Whitcher, Chairman

James F. Hughes

Stephen H. Nedeau

2000 Meredith Budget

	1999	1999	2000
	Appropriations	Expended	Appropriations Recommended
<u>General Government</u>			
Executive Office	\$ 126,598	\$ 137,438	\$ 131,102
Executive - Municipal Administration	719,385	643,896	736,552
Personnel Administration	710,017	669,001	769,126
Town Clerk	81,680	75,135	93,958
Finance Department	157,278	136,889	157,302
General Assistance	25,400	21,323	25,400
Assessor's Office	74,092	73,525	92,599
Tax Collector's Office	44,344	41,857	45,184
Planning & Zoning Office	181,721	156,044	173,444
Regional Association	45,406	45,406	46,985
Health Agencies	120,457	120,457	122,286
Encumbrances	-	217,118	-
<u>Public Safety</u>			
Police	743,185	696,751	804,816
Fire	151,763	148,252	158,135
<u>Public Works</u>			
Solid Waste Facility	633,967	505,186	630,624
Building & Grounds	117,424	97,590	131,634
Highway Department	1,246,257	1,210,928	1,347,744
Cemetery	39,480	34,061	53,150
<u>Culture and Recreation</u>			
Parks and Recreation	133,273	133,717	144,116
Library	292,726	268,405	314,399
<u>Debt Service</u>			
Principal - Long-Term Debt	339,804	330,958	252,798
Interest - Long-Term Debt	243,618	250,577	240,043
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes	10,000	-	10,000
<u>Expendable Trust Funds</u>	525,000	525,000	710,000
Total General Fund	\$ 6,762,875	\$ 6,539,513	\$ 7,191,397
<u>Conservation Commission</u>	1,453	1,006	1,200
<u>Sewer Fund</u>	497,828	434,566	504,031
<u>Water Fund</u>	293,725	321,426	320,041
Total Operating Budget All Funds	\$ 7,555,881	\$ 7,296,512	\$ 8,016,669
<u>Warrant Articles Not In Operating Budget</u>			
Article #7 - Plymouth Street-Route 3 North	-	-	1,800,000
Article #8 - Fire Truck	-	-	325,000
Grand Total - Municipal Budget	\$ 7,555,881	\$ 7,296,512	\$ 10,141,669

2000 Meredith Budget

	1999 Estimated	1999 Actual	2000 Estimated
<u>Taxes</u>			
Yield	\$ 10,000	\$ 14,187	\$ 10,000
Boat	32,000	40,856	35,000
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	160,000	134,200	140,500
Total Taxes	202,000	189,243	185,500
<u>Licenses and Permits</u>			
Motor Vehicle Permits	650,000	880,916	750,000
Building Permits	17,000	21,584	20,000
Other Licenses, Permits, Fees	35,000	48,790	36,500
Total Licenses and Permits	702,000	951,290	806,500
<u>Intergovernmental Revenues</u>			
<u>State</u>			
Highway Block Grant	135,117	135,117	143,774
Shared Revenue	31,493	76,659	31,493
Rooms & Meals Tax	74,397	95,948	95,948
Water Pollution Grants	23,281	24,932	24,932
Filtration Grant	-	28,144	-
FEMA - Federal and State - Flood 98	-	14,706	-
State & Forest Land Reimbursement	379	343	343
Other State/Federal Revenue	4,500	35,203	4,500
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	269,167	411,051	300,990
<u>Charges for Services</u>			
Income from Departments	380,000	505,514	405,851
<u>Miscellaneous Revenues</u>			
Sale of Town Property	5,000	17,187	5,000
Interest on Investments	75,000	140,500	85,000
Insurance & Betterment Assessments	113,356	157,755	115,000
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	193,356	315,442	205,000
<u>Other Financing Sources</u>			
<u>Interfund Transfers</u>			
Special Revenue Fund	221,453	212,953	221,453
Trust Funds	16,000	62,875	-
Total Other Financing Sources	237,453	275,828	221,453
Total Revenues & Other Financing Sources	1,983,976	2,648,369	2,125,294
Unreserved Fund Balance Used To			
Reduce Tax Rate	752,000	722,000	1,055,000
Total Revenues, Other Financial Sources and Use of Fund Balance	\$ 2,735,976	\$ 3,370,369	\$ 3,180,294
Special Revenue Funds			
Sewer	498,078	530,131	504,031
Water	293,725	372,278	320,041
Grand Total All Funds	\$ 3,527,779	\$ 4,272,778	\$ 4,004,367

2000 Municipal Tax Rate Projection

2000 Appropriations – Approved by Board of Selectmen	\$ 8,016,669
Less: 2000 Estimated Revenues – Other than Property Taxes	(\$ 4,004,367)
Less: Shared Revenues – Town Portion	(\$ 36,312)
Add: Overlay Proposed	\$ 99,988
Add: War Service Credits (Deducted From Property Tax Warrant)	\$ 62,650
Total Net Town Appropriation to be Raised by Taxation	<u>\$ 4,139,629</u>

2000 Estimated Tax Rate (Town Portion Only) \$6.89

Compared to the 1999 Tax Rate of \$6.89 (Town Portion Only)

Warrant Articles With Potential Tax Rate Impact:

If the following non-operating warrant articles are passed, the tax rate will increase by:

1. **Article # 7:**

\$1,800,000.00 Water and Sewer Main Replacements, Plymouth Street – Route 3 North
(Recommended by Board of Selectmen)
Impact on the Tax Rate per \$1,000 valuation

Debt and Interest yearly – 10 year Bond \$ 0.18 for Fiscal Year Ended 12/31/2000
Debt and Interest yearly – 30 year Bond \$ 0.08 for Fiscal Year Ended 12/31/2000

Note: Term of Bond will be determined by Selectmen and beginning date of project.

2. **Article # 19:**

\$ 2,592.00 Winnepesaukee Wellness Center (Recommended by Board of Selectmen)
Impact on the Tax Rate per \$1,000 valuation

One-time Appropriation \$ 0.004 for Fiscal Year Ended 12/31/2000

3. **Article # 20:**

\$ 40,000.00 Canal Bridge Project (Recommended by Board of Selectmen)
Impact on the Tax Rate per \$1,000 valuation

One-time Appropriation \$ 0.07 for Fiscal Year Ended 12/31/2000

Meetings of Town Boards and Committees

Monday:	Board of Selectmen - 7:00 pm, 1st & 3rd Mondays, Conference Room, Police Station
Tuesday:	Library Trustees - 7:30 pm, 2nd Tuesday, Public Library Planning Board - 7:30 pm, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, Conference Room, Police Station
Thursday:	Conservation Commission - 7:00 pm, 1st Thursday, Conference Room, Police Station Zoning Board of Adjustment - 7:30 pm, 2nd Thursday, Conference Room, Police Station

Office Hours

Assessor's Office	M - F	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	279-4538
Code Enforcement	M - F	8:00 am - 12:30 pm 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm	279-4538
General Assistance	M - F	9:00 am - 12:00 pm Closed Thursday's	279-4538
Municipal Office	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Planning & Zoning	M - F	8:00 am - 12:30 pm 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Public Library	T, W	10:00 am - 8:00 pm	279-4303
	TH	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	
	F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	
	SAT	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	
Public Works Department	M - F	7:30 am - 4:30 pm	279-6352
Includes Buildings & Grounds, Cemetery & Highway Departments			
Recreation Department	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Solid Waste Facility	Daily -	8:00 am - 3:00 pm Closed Wednesday's and Holidays	279-8480
Tax Collector	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Town Clerk	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Town Manager	M - F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Water & Sewer Department	M - F	7:00 am - 3:30 pm	279-3046

Town of Meredith

All Emergency Calls Dial "911"

Emergency & Health Information

Community Action Program	279-4096
Emergency Management Director	279-8933
Lakes Region General Hospital	524-3211
Meredith Public Health Nursing	279-6611
Hanover Poison Information Center	1-800-562-8236

Meredith Municipal Office

Business	279-4538
Fax	279-1042
Public Information Line (recorded message)	279-5373

Meredith Public Library

Business	279-4303
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Police/Fire-Local and State

Belknap County Sheriff's Department	524-3830
Meredith Fire Department non-emergency	279-6061
Meredith Police Department non-emergency	279-4561
State Police (Concord)	1-800-852-3411
State Police (Tamworth)	323-8112

We have the following available services for the general public at the Municipal Office.

Permits to Kindle Fires	279-4538
TDD	279-4538
Notary/Justice of the Peace	\$5.00/document